

OFFICIAL REPORT

BUDGET SESSION

VOLUME I

No. 21

The 31st March, 1959



सत्यमेव जयते

1962

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SHILLONG

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ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY DEBATES OFFICIAL REPORT

FIFTH SESSION OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE
ASSEMBLY ASSEMBLED AFTER THE SECOND
GENERAL ELECTION UNDER THE SOVEREIGN
DEMOCRATIC REPUBLICAN CONSTITUTION
OF INDIA

BUDGET SESSION VOLUME I No. 21

The 21st Session, 1939



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DEBATES OF THE ASSAM LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY, 1959

(Budget Session)

Vol. I, No. 21

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**Proceedings of the Fifth session of the Assam Legislative
Assembly assembled after the Second General Election under
the sovereign Democratic Republic an Constitution
of india**

The Assembly met in the Assembly Chamber, Shillong, at 9-30 A. M.
on Tuesday, the 31st March, 1959.

P R E S E N T

Shri Dev Kanta Borooah, B. A., LL.B., Speaker in the Chair, eight
Minister,s the Four Deputy Ministers and Sixty-six Members.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

STARRED QUESTIONS

(To which oral answers were given)

**Metalling the portion of Nalbari-Palla Road within
the area of Nalbari Municipality**

†Shri TARUNSEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked :

*76. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Depart-
ment (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to enquire and state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that repeated public representations have been given to the Govern-
ment to metal the portion of Nalbari-Palla
Road within the area of Nalbari Municipality ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that most of the important
Government offices, such as office of the
Magistrate, A. S. O., Sub-Deputy Collector,
Treasury Officer, Agriculture Inspector,
Weaving Marketing Centre, Central Bank and
Office of Public Works Department (Roads
and Buldings) and Subdivisional Officer, Em-
bankment and Drainage, Sericulture Inspector,
etc., are located on either side of this road ?

†Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar put the Question in the absence of the
Questioner.

- (c) Whether Government are aware that due to the heavy traffic movements the neighbouring areas of the road become dusty, causing inconvenience to the public and to public health ?
- (d) Whether Government propose to metal out the portion of Nalbari-Palla Road portion within this area to save the neighbouring people from dust ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied :

76. (a)—No such public petitions appear to have been received except a letter from Shri P. N. Choudhury, M.L.A.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—This may be. This is a gravelled road and so dust nuisance to certain extent cannot be avoided.

(d)—Yes, proposal for metalling and surfacing this portion of the road, is under consideration and depends on availability of funds.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY: Are Government aware that the Gauhati Subdivisional Development Board recommended for servicing that portion of the road ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI: Yes Sir.

Allotment of seats to deserving patients in E. N. T. Branch of the Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh

†**Shri TARUNSEN DEKA** (Nalbari-West) asked :

*77. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether attention of Government has been drawn to a letter by one Suchen Bhuyan published in the daily *Assam Tribune* of 29th January 1958, regarding anomalous allotment of seats to the long-awaited and deserving patients in E. N. T. Branch of the Medical College Hospital, Dibrugarh ?

†**Shri Ghanashyam Talukdar** put the Question in the absence of the Questioner.

- (b) Whether Government is aware that similar complaint was made by one Sada Das of Barpeta, in a letter published in the daily *Assam Tribune* in the month of April, 1958 ?
- (c) Whether the contents of these letters were enquired into ?
- (d) Whether proper action has been taken up to remedy such state of affairs ?
- (e) How far it is a fact that the Doctor-in-charge of E. N. T. Branch is responsible for such anomalous allotment of seats ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical) replied :

77. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—Yes.

(d)—Government are always ready to rectify any undesirable state of affairs but as regards the allegation of Shri Suchen Bhuyan and Shri Sada Das, the enquiry revealed that the allegations were baseless.

(e)—So far the allegations are concerned the doctor of the E. N. T. was not at fault.

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA : Sir, may I know from the Minister incharge whether an enquiry has been made after the receipt of the complaint ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Yes, an enquiry has been made and it has been made by the Director of Health Services himself.

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI : Sir, the answer to question 77 (a), (b), 8 (c) is yes and if the Director incharge is not responsible, then may I know who is responsible ?

Mr. SPEAKER : There is no question of responsibility here. Has the hon. Member read the question ? I am afraid, he has not.

The question is (a) whether attention of Government has been drawn to a letter ?

(b) Whether Government is aware that similar complaint was made, and

(c) Whether the contents of these letters are enquired in to ?

and the answer is yes, yes, yes,. That does not mean that Government agree that allegations are true. I hope that is clear to the hon. member.

Regarding condition of Khata-Batahgila Road in North Kamrup Division

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) asked :

***78.** Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that Khata-Batahgila Road in North Kamrup Division is almost semi-circular in shape and serves the purpose of a protective bund than a road ?

(b) Whether the road passes through some existing roads except at the middle where it is proposed to construct the road on private lands by spoiling a big paddy field at Balikaria ?

(c) Whether it is a fact that the project was inspected by the Additional Chief Engineer, on request of the villagers who offered lands free of cost by existing village road to complete the said road ?

(d) Whether it is a fact that as required by the Additional Chief Engineer, the villagers have given the lands of the proposed alignment free in writing ?

(e) Whether it is a fact that under similar circumstances in several cases original alignments were changed in public interest ?

- (f) Whether it is a fact that one *Ex-M. L. A.* is insisting on to spoil the paddy lands of the private persons at Balikaria and failing this to align the road to Nalbari Sanskrit College ?
- (g) Whether it is a fact that this interference has put the Public Works Department at a fix in settling up the matter ?
- (h) What instructions have been issued by higher authorities in the matter ?
- (i) Why the proposals of the Executive Engineer, North Kamrup Division and Superintending Engineer, Lower Assam, Gauhati to construct the road by lands offered free of cost by the villagers have not been given effect to ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings Wing)] replied:

78. (a)—Yes, but the alignment is not proposed to serve the purpose of a bund.

(b)—Yes, the alignment runs along some existing village paths in places and a portion of it, about half a mile in length in the second mile passes through paddy fields.

(c) & (d)—Yes, the alignment was inspected at the request of Shri P. N. Choudhury, M.L.A., and some villagers, a few of whom agreed to part with their lands. But, in such cases, registered deeds of gift are necessary from the Patta-holders.

(e)—Change of alignment in some cases has to be made considering the merits of such cases.

(f)—A representation was received from Shriman Prafulla Goswami, *ex M.L.A.*, with regard to fixation of the alignment

(g)—It is not a fact.

(h) & (i)—No final instructions have yet been issued as the whole question of fixation of the alignment is still under consideration.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Regarding (a), Sir, is the road like অর্দ্ধচক্রাকৃতি উত্তরবাহী গল্লি in Benares ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education): The question will be referred to some Pandit in Benares.

Revised scale of pay of the Deputy Co-operative Officers

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

*79. Will the Minister-in-charge of Finance be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the pay scale recommended by the Pay Committee in respect of Deputy Co-operative Officers was not yet been given effect to ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that many of the Deputy Co-operative Officers have been serving at a pay of Rs.150 without any increment for the last 3 or 4 years ?

(c) If so, why no increment has been given to the Deputy Co-operative Officers ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied:

79. (a)—The Pay Committee recommended the scale of Rs.150—10—220—(EB)—10—300—(EB)—10—350 for graduate Deputy Co-operative Officers and Government gave effect to the same from the 1st October, 1956.

(b) & (c)—As the revised scale of Rs.150—350 has been sanctioned specifically for the graduate Deputy Co-operative Officers, the under-graduate Deputy Co-operative Officers who were appointed prior to 1st October 1956 are not entitled to the revised scale. Hence they have to continue on the fixed pay of Rs.150 per mensem, on which they were originally appointed and the question of giving increments to them does not arise.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : Sir, may I know whether the graduate Deputy Co-operative Officers are getting increment ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance), So far as my information goes, Sir, the Pay scale recommended by the Pay Committee for graduate Deputy Co-operative Officers has been given effect to, but if there is any specific case where any officer has not received that pay scale the hon. Member will please inform me and I shall make enquiry.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : The Co-operative Officer at Hojai who is a graduate has not received increment for the last 3 or 4 years. Will the Government please make an enquiry ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : I shall make an enquiry.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : Sir, may I know whether there is any difference between the graduate and non-graduate Co-operative Officers with regard to their duties and responsibilities ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : There may not be any difference in that respect, but the scale of pay was fixed by the Pay Committee on the basis of qualifications after those particulars were placed before that Committee and according to their recommendations for future employment only graduates are taken in the Department.

Shri KARKA CHANDRA DOLEY [North Lakhimpur (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : তেওঁলোকৰ দৰমহা Pay Committee এ ঠিক কৰি দিছে বুলি কৈছে। কিন্তু এতিয়া বতায় দিয়া কথাটো চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা নকৰে নে ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : নতুনকৈ ভৰ্তি কৰাবোৰ Graduate লোৱা হৈছে আৰু non-graduate যিবোৰে কাম কৰি আছে তেওঁলোকৰ কথা consider কৰা হৈছে।

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri) : Sir, why there is difference in pay scale for equal work ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : These matters were considered by the Pay Committee and the scale of pay recommended by them was approved by the Government. In future no undergraduate will be recruited.

Shri KHAGENDRA NATH BARBARUA : Sir, the Ministers have different qualifications and yet why are they drawing the same amount of salary ? (laughter).

UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

(To which answers were laid on the table)

Inundation and damage done to Kamalpur Circle by the high flood of Puthimari river

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

189. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government is aware that due to high flood of Puthimari river a large area of Kamalpur Circle have been inundated for the last 5 years causing great damage to cultivation?
- (b) What was the extent of damage in the year 1958-59?
- (c) How many persons have been affected by the floods?
- (d) What measures Government have taken to stop the ravages of flood in the area?
- (e) What was the amount sanctioned as Agricultural loan to the people of Kamalpur Circle?
- (f) How many persons have been given in advance as Agricultural loan during the aforesaid years?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Agriculture) replied:

189. (a)—Yes. Some damage was caused by flood of the Puthimari river in Kamalpur Circle during the last five years.

(b)—Area affected—3,000 acres approximately and crops damaged—37,000 maunds approximately.

(c)—About 30,000 persons were affected by the flood.

(d) —The Public Works Department (E. & D.) drew up a programme for providing embankments under the Second Five Year Plan and detailed plans and estimates amounting to Rs.26.29 lakhs were submitted to Government of India for their technical approval and Central loan assistance. Due to successive pruning down of the Plan ceiling under Flood Control Programme, it has not been possible to implement this programme so far and it will not be possible to do so under the Second Plan unless the ceiling of the Plan is raised. However, the Public Works Department (E. & D.) have framed estimates amounting to Rs.48,410 for closing the spill channels on both banks of the Puthimari in the un-embanked stretch of the river as a short term measure. The work is proposed to be completed by the end of this financial year.

(e)—Rupees 15,000 as Agricultural loan.

(f)—251 persons were given Agricultural loan.

Amount sanctioned for Minor Irrigation Schemes for the State in 1958-59

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked :

190. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

(a) What is the total amount sanctioned for minor irrigation schemes for the State in the year 1958-59 ?

(b) What amount has been sanctioned to the different subdivision of the State ?

(c) What amount has been sanctioned for Kamalpur Circle and what are the projects undertaken ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Agriculture) replied :

190. (a)—Rupees 12,00,000 of which Government contribution is Rs.6.00 lakhs, sanctioned by the Agriculture Department. Rupees 17.85 lakhs have been sanctioned for scheme under Minor Irrigation—Agriculture Programme by the Public Works Department (E. & D.).

(b)—The amount sanctioned by the Agriculture Department subdivisionwise is shown below:—

Subdivision						Amount allotted
						Rs.
1. Silchar	...	...	...	...	...	50,000
2. Karimganj	...	...	...	...	..	50,000
3. Hailakandi	...	...	...	...	....	50,000
4. Dhubri	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
5. Goalpara	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
6. Gauhati	...	...	...	...	...	70,000
7. Barpeta	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
8. Tezpur	...	...	...	...	...	50,000
9. Mangaldai	...	...	...	...	...	50,000
10. Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	65,000
11. Jorhat	...	...	...	...	...	65,000
12. Golaghat	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
13. Dibrugarh	...	...	...	...	..	80,000
14. North Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
15. Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	70,000
16. Shillong	...	...	...	...	...	60,000
17. Jowai	...	...	...	..	...	45,000
18. Tura	...	...	...	...	...	55,000
19. Diphu	...	...	...	...	...	35,000
20. Haflong	...	...	...	...	...	35,000
21. Aijal	...	...	...	...	...	35,000
22. Lungleh	...	...	...	...	...	35,000
Total					...	<u>12,00,000</u>

The amount sanctioned by P. W. D. (E. & D.) is as follows :—

						Rs.
1. Nowgong	...	...	...	...	...	1,70,000
2. North Lakhimpur	...	...	...	...	...	47,000
3. Dhubri	...	...	...	...	...	1,70,000
4. Tezpur ..	..	...	...	...	...	3,00,000
5. Gauhati ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,97,000
6. Barpeta ...	...	...	...	..	...	5,000
7. Silchar ...	...	...	...	...	...	1,15,000
8. Hailakandi	...	...	...	...	...	20,000
9. Karimganj	...	...	...	...	..	1,45,000
10. Dibrugarh	...	...	...	...	...	5,36,000
11. Sibsagar	...	...	...	...	...	8,000
12. Jorhat ...	...	...	...	..	...	5,000
13. Mangaldai	...	...	...	...	...	63,000
14. United Mikir and North Cachar Hills				...	...	4,000
Total					...	17,85,000

(c)—The P. W. D. (E. & D.) have sanctioned Rs.50,000 during 1958-59 for Kamalpur Circle for the Scheme "Construction of Marginal Embankment along the banks of the river Puthimari to protect Pub-Kacharimahar and Kaurbah Mouzas" under Minor Irrigation.

(ii) An amount of Rs. 26,630 (Rupees twenty-six thousand, six hundred and thirty only) has been sanctioned for execution of Minor Irrigation Projects for Kamalpur Circle under Minor Irrigation Scheme for the current year 1958-59 by the Agriculture Department. The list of the sanctioned Minor Irrigation Projects for Kamalpur Circle is given below:—

1. Suagpur No.5 Bund.
2. Bhotor Bhata Bund.
3. Silbhorai Bund.
4. Kalakuchi Embankment.

5. Bargaon Embankment.
6. Athiaboi Embankment (Remodelling).
7. Lawkuri Embankment.
8. Marabarnadi-Magurimari Bund/Embankment (Remodelling).
9. Kacharua Drainage.
10. Lahijan Bund.
11. Kokoria Bund/Embankment.
12. Gopeswar Embankment.
13. Panitema Embankment (Remodelling).
14. Kashubil Bund/Drainage.
15. Hameragaon Embankment.
16. Chutiapara Embankment.
17. Kadamtol Embankment.
18. Daukatol Embankment Extension (Remodelling).
19. Tuhura Embankment.
20. Alta Embankment.
21. Chara Embankment.
22. Autola Kendua Dong.
23. Bhomlahati Titkuchi Embankment.
24. Gurnow Dong.
25. Bornagar Lokra.
26. Horharia Embankment.
27. Manikpur Drainage.
28. Pingleswar Drainage/Embankment.
29. Changsari Choumukha Embankment.
30. Bungadal Embankment/Drainage.
31. Dhakhin Singra (Maihati) Jan Project.

Representation to construct a marginal bund on both banks of Naotana Jan from Bokra Bill to Kuruajani River

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

191. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government have lately received several representations from the public of the mouzas Purbapar and Sila Sinduri Ghopa of Kamalpur Circle praying the Government to construct a marginal bund on both banks of Naotana Jan from Bokra Bill to Kuruajani River to protect the fields from water hyacinth menace and flood ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that Government have ordered that the plan and estimates were to be prepared by an Embankment and Drainage Overseer and the Project was to be examined by Executive Engineer, Embankment and Drainage, Kamrup ?
- (c) Whether the plan and estimate were submitted, and if so, what was the amount estimated ?
- (d) If not or in case the said plan and estimate cannot be traced out will the Minister be pleased to order the plan and estimate of the project to be prepared again ?
- (e) Will Government be pleased to take immediate steps for execution of the project under Grow More Food Scheme ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Agriculture) replied :

191. (a)—No.

(b)—No such order was issued.

(c)—Does not arise.

(d)—This will be done.

(e)—This may be done if found feasible.

Seed Farms in Gauhati Subdivision

Shri SARAT CHANDRA GOSWAMI (Kamalpur) asked:

192. Will the Minister-in-charge of Agriculture be pleased to state—

- (a) How many Seed Farms have been proposed to be established in Gauhati Subdivision ?
- (b) Where they are proposed to be situated ?
- (c) How many Seed Farms have already been established and what they are ?
- (d) How many Seed Farms are proposed to be established in the years 1958-59 and 1959-60 ?

Shri LARSINGH KHYRIEM (Deputy Minister, Agriculture) replied :

192. (a)—16.

(b)—1. Baska Block.

- 2. Tihu Nalbari.
- 3. Pub-Nalbari.
- 4. Pachim Nalbari.
- 5. Tamulpur.
- 6. Rangiya.
- 7. Barigog Banbhag.
- 8. Kamalpur.
- 9. Barkhetri Bongsor.
- 10. Hajo.
- 11. Chamaria.
- 12. Boko Bongaon.
- 13. Chaygaon.
- 14. Rampur.
- 15. Rani.
- 16. Dimoria.

(c)—12 Seed Farms have already been established at the places shown below :—

1. Kahikuchi (Rani Block).
2. Dhamdhama (Baska Block).
3. Tulsibari (Rangiya).
4. Garua (Hajo).
5. Demoria (Dimoria Block).
6. Namati (Tihu Nalbari Block).
7. Lakhopur (Pachim Nalbari).
8. Sakhati (Chamari Block).
9. Bamunigaon (Chaygaon).
10. Bargaon (Boko Bangaon).
11. Tamulpur (Tamulpur).
12. Mukalmua (Bankhetri-Bongsor).

(d)—Out of 12 Farms listed in (c) above, 5 farm have been established prior to 1958-59. 7 Farms have been established during 1958-59 and the remaining 4 are proposed to be set up during 1959-60.

High Price of Rice and Paddy in Silchar Subdivision

Shri NANDA KISHORE SINHA (Sonai) asked :

193. Will the Minister-in-charge of Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether he is aware of the high price of rice and paddy in Silchar Subdivision ?
- (b) If so, what action has been taken so far to check such abnormal increase in the price of rice and whether the District authority, Cachar has been instructed to open cheap-grain-shops where needed ?

Shri M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied :

193. (a)—There was a temporary rise in price of rice in Silchar Subdivision during first part of February, 1959, but the price are normal now.

(b)—The following steps have already been taken by Government to check any rise in price of rice :—

- (1)—Enforcement of price control orders both in Rural and Urban Areas.
- (2)—Checking of movements by unlicensed dealers and seizure of stocks hoarded by them.
- (3)—Taking over of the stocks of millers and non-miller dealers for sale at controlled prices.
- (4)—Suspension of licenses of dealers and millers in Silchar Subdivision and direct purchase of paddy by Government for building up a buffer stock.
- (5)—Maintenance of normal flow of rice into market by allowing petty dealers to carry on business in rice, and
- (6)—Import of rice from other surplus areas of the State into Cachar for sale through Fair Price Shops, if considered necessary.

The Deputy Commissioner, Cachar has already been instructed to open cheap-grain-shops where considered necessary.

Number of Venture L. P. School in Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) asked :

194. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) What is the number of Venture L. P. School now existing in Sibsagar Subdivision ?
- (b) Whether Government has received the names of such schools from the local authorities ?

- (c) Whether Government propose to take over the Schools ?
- (d) How many of the above Venture L. P. Schools are in the Forest Reserves ?
- (e) Whether Government propose to give preference to Forest area Schools as the people who live there have all been rehabilitated ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied :

194. (a)—There are at present 48 Venture L. P. Schools in the Sibsagar Subdivision.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—There is no fund at present to take over new Schools. The question will be considered along with other Schools in the coming year.

(d)—The information is being collected.

(e)—The Schools are selected by School Boards which give due consideration to such special needs.

***Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Saikhowa)** : ১৯৫৮-৫৯ চনত State Government এ এখনো Venture Primary স্কুল লোৱা নাই নেকি ?

Sri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) : হয়, কোনো স্কুল লোৱা নাই ; কিন্তু additional fund ৰ পৰা শিক্ষকে লোৱা হৈছে ।

***Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA** : শিৱসাগৰ মহকুমাৰ ৪৮ খন Venture Primary স্কুলৰ কেইখন Central Government fund ৰ পৰা লোৱা হৈছে ।

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : এতিয়াই কোৱা অলপ টান হব ।

***Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA** : যি কেইখন স্কুল চৰকাৰে লৈছে— সেই কেইখন প্ৰথমতে School Board এ recommend নকৰাকৈ কেনেকৈ select কৰিলে ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : স্কুল বিলাক select কৰোতে deserving শব্দটোৰ ওপৰত জোৰ দিয়া হৈছিল আৰু ১৯৫২ চনতেই কৰা হৈছিল !

Mr. SPEAKER : যি বিলাক স্কুল শিৱসাগৰ মহকুমাত লোৱা হৈছিল— সেই বিলাক স্কুলবৰ্ভৰ নোসোধাকৈ কিয় লোৱা হৈছিল ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : স্কুলবৰ্ভৰ লিষ্টৰ পৰা লোৱা হৈছিল ।

***Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO** : আমাৰ ৰাজ্যৰ 'ফাণ্ড' নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে স্কুল বিলাক লব পৰা নাই বুলি কৈছে । তেনেহলে প্ৰাথমিক স্কুলবিলাক অন্যান্য স্কুল বিলাকতকৈ কমজোৰ দিয়া হৈছে নেকি ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : কম নহয়— বেচিহে মনোযোগ দিয়া হৈছে ।

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA: May I know whether all these 48 Venture Lower Primary Schools taken over by Government are deserving ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : Most of these are deserving ?

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA** : What is the criteria to know that such a school is deserving ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : For a school having at least one qualified teacher and 40 students.

***Shri RAMNATH DAS [Dergaon (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]**: In reply to (c) it is said, "there is no fund at present to take over new schools. The question will be considered along with other schools in the coming year", may I know when there is no fund at present whether any fund has been provided specifically for the coming year to take up more Venture Lower Primary Schools ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : No fund is provided for the coming year.

***Shri RAMNATH DAS** : Then how Government is proposing to consider this matter of taking over more venture schools ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : If there is considerable number of them then it will be considered.

***Shri RAMNATH DAS** : May I know from the Government whether at present there is a large number of deserving venture schools to be taken over ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS** : That I have already explained. As soon as we got notice of this question we have written to all the Sub-divisions to furnish with the number of deserving Venture Lower Primary Schools fit to be taken over by the Government. The replies are awaited. When the same is received, Government will consider the question whether they should be taken over.

Confirmation of temporary hands who serves more than five years in Supply Department, etc.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West) asked :

195. Will the Finance Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that temporary hands serving for more than five years in temporary Department like the Supply Department, etc., have been made permanent ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that personnel of other temporary Departments have been deprived of this benefit ?
- (c) If so, whether Government will be pleased to take steps to do away with such discrimination ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) replied :

195. (a)—No. Persons serving in temporary Departments cannot be made permanent unless the Department itself or a part of it is made permanent. Supply Department has not yet been made permanent.

(b)—Does not arise.

(c)—Does not arise.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA : Sir, do the Government intend to make the Supply Department permanent as this Department is still continuing for many years and will continue in future ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : There is a proposal under the consideration of the Government to make the reduced staff of the Supply Department, which has been continuing for considerable number of years, permanent.

Amalgamation of the Office of Assistant Inspector of Schools, Cachar with the Office of Inspector of Schools, Southern Assam Circle, Silchar

Shri TAJAMMUL ALI BARLASKAR (Udarband) asked :

196. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether the office of the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Cachar has been merged with the office of the Inspector of Schools, Southern Assam Circle, Silchar ?

- (b) If so, from what date and under whose order it has been merged ?
- (c) From what date the post of the Assistant Inspector of Schools, Cachar has fallen vacant due to sudden demise of Shri Rasaraj Das ?
- (d) Why no incumbent has been appointed exclusively in that post ?
- (e) Whether it is a fact that the office of the Inspector of Schools, Southern Assam Circle, is being held in a hired house ?
- (f) What steps have been taken by Government for finding out a suitable land for the said office ?
- (g) When Government propose to construct an office building for the said office ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education)
replied:

196. (a)—Yes.

(b)—From 1st September, 1958. Till creation of a separate Inspector's Circle with Headquarters at Silchar the Assistant Inspector of Schools for Cachar was authorised to exercise certain financial powers in respect of schools in the Cachar District. The Assistant Inspector of Schools for Cachar ceased to exercise these powers when the Inspector's Office at Silchar was started with effect from 1st September, 1958. No formal order has been issued merging the office of the Assistant Inspector of Schools for Cachar with the office of the Inspector of Schools, Southern Assam Circle, Silchar. The matter is being regularised.

(c)—25th November, 1957 forenoon.

(d)—The post has already been advertised. Pending Assam Public Service Commission's nomination, Superintendent, Normal School has been allowed to be in-charge of the current duties of the Assistant Inspector of Schools.

(e)—Yes.

(f)—The Deputy Commissioner, Cachar has been requested to provide 2 bighas of church land for construction of the office building of Inspector of Schools, Southern Assam Circle.

(g)—Construction of the building will be considered when the land is available.

Canvassing in election or bye-election by Ministers and Deputy Ministers.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

197. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Ministers and Deputy Ministers are entitled to canvass in election or bye-election as Ministers and Deputy Ministers ?
- (b) If not, whether it is a fact that some Ministers and Deputy Ministers travelled from Shillong to Barpeta by Government Cars during the last bye-election to the Assembly from Tarabari ?
- (c) Whether travelling allowances were drawn by them and if so, what is the amount drawn by each of them ?
- (d) How many Ministers and Deputy Ministers went to Tarabari before the last bye-election and for how many times and the number of C. I. D. personnel deputed there on the occasion ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance for Chief Minister) replied:

197. (a)—As a matter of law they are ; as a matter of convention, however, journeys undertaken by a Minister or a Deputy Minister in the interest of the party in course of an election or a bye-election are treated as private.

(b)—No.

(c)—No T. A. was drawn for tours in connection with the bye-election.

- (d)—1. Shri B. P. Chaliha once
 2. Shri R. N. Brahma once
 3. Shri M. H. Choudhury once
 4. Shri F. A. Ahmed once

Number of C. I. D. personnel deputed—10.

Complaint for short measurement of stacks of earth-work for filling up pit in the nearby Government High English School, Barpeta.

Dr. SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked:

198. Will the Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government are aware of the complaints from public of Barpeta to the Chief Engineer, Shillong and Executive Engineer, Barpeta regarding short measurement of stacks of earth-work for filling up pit in the nearby Government High English School, Barpeta ?

(b) If so, who is responsible for such short measurement ?

(c) Whether any steps have been taken against the person responsible by now ?

(d) If not, why not ?

(e) Who were the contractors ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] replied:

198. (a)—No such complaints have been received, but there was a complaint of excess measurement, received by Executive Engineer, Barpeta which was investigated by him and found to be baseless.

(b), (c) & (d)—Do not arise.

(e)—Shri Nandalal Poddar and Shri Kamala Kanta Talukdar.

Publication of the advertisement for training of Veterinary Field Assistant

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thawra) asked:

199. Will the Minister-in-charge of Veterinary be pleased to state—

(a) Whether it is a fact that the Veterinary Department published advertisement for the training of Veterinary Field Assistant to cope with the present demand of vacant posts of Field Assistant?

(b) If so, when it was advertised?

(c) What was the number of applications received?

(d) When the selection of trainees will be made?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) replied:

199. (a)—Yes.

(b)—In the month of July, 1958.

(c)—1,629.

(d)—The selection of trainees will be made as soon as the Officer and the Instructors under the Veterinary Field Assistant Training Scheme are appointed.

Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra) : Instruction বিলাক appoint কৰাৰ আয়োজন নকৰাকৈ ৯ মাহৰ আগতে Advertise কৰি Candidate বিলাকক বেমেজালিত পেলোৱা হোৱা নাইনেকি ?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Veterinary) : The advertisement was made with the anticipation that the construction of the buildings for the Assam Veterinary College would be finished within the scheduled time but unfortunately the Public Works Department could not complete the same. Although some quarters were completed, arrangement for electricity and water could not be made for the same. Failing in this we tried to hire some houses at Gauhati but the houses which were selected by us were wanted for the proposed Oil Refinery. Their demand being pressing we had to give way. These are the reasons for the delay. The Government with best intentions advertised but for these difficulties the training work could not be undertaken.

Loan sanctioned to Mill-owners, etc., of Nalbari for Procurement of Paddy

Shri TARUN SEN DEKA (Nalbari-West) asked:

200. Will the Minister, Supply be pleased to state—

- (a) Who are the Mill-owners, business men and business agencies of Nalbari to whom Government has sanctioned loan for procurement of paddy?
- (b) What is the amount allotted to each of them?
- (c) Whether they have to abide by the terms and conditions of the loan?
- (d) Whether the instalments have been paid by them?
- (e) If not, what steps have been taken against them?

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister, Supply) replied:

200. (a)—Only to Shri Gobordhandas Bharatiya, Proprietor of Bharatiya Rice and Oil Mills, Nalbari.

(b)—Rs. 1,00,000.

(c)—Yes.

(d) & (e)—The entire principal with 3 per cent interest per annum has been paid by the party after coercive measures were initiated.

Supply of C. I. Sheets to certain timber framed Lower Primary School buildings situated in Eastern part of Dibrugarh Subdivision

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked:

201. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether Government are aware that a large number of timber framed Lower Primary School buildings such as Lunpuria Lower Primary School in Bogdung Mauza, Nowgong (Panitola) Lower Primary School in Gharbandi Mauza, Assamese Lower Primary School at Dhulijan near Langkasi in Tipling Mauza and schools in other places specially in eastern part of the subdivision were constructed by the local public with understanding that C. I. sheets would be supplied free by the School Board?

- (b) Whether Government is aware that most of these school buildings have been exposed in sun and rain since 1956 ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that free C. I. sheets were given to schools elsewhere of the subdivision during the year 1956, 1957 and 1958 but no attention has been given to the schools in eastern part of the subdivision as yet ?
- (d) Whether it is a fact that due to interference of the Board the Inspecting Staff could not honour their commitments made to certain schools to supply free C. I. sheets ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

201. (a)—Yes, Government are aware and supplied C. I. sheets to Lunpuria Lower Primary School and Dhulijan Lower Primary School was given a Storm Damage Grant of Rs.1,500 with which C. I. sheets were purchased for that school but Government could not supply C. I. sheets to Nowgong Lower Primary School for want of stock.

(b)—Yes, there are some school buildings the timber frame of which are exposed to sun and rain for want of C. I. sheets.

(c)—Yes, C. I. sheets were distributed during 1956, 1957 and 1958 to schools throughout the subdivision and it is not a fact that no attention was paid to the eastern part of the subdivision. The statement below will indicate the quantity of C. I. sheets distributed in the eastern part of the subdivision.

Distribution of C. I. Sheets to Lower Primary Schools of the Eastern part beyond Bogdung Mauza during the year 1956 to 1959
Dibrugarh Subdivision

Serial No.	Name of the schools	Mauza	No. of bundles	Date of issue	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
1	Hiloidhari	Town ..	9 bundles	22nd February 1956	.. 1956.
2	Rongsongi Lower Primary	Bhonbondi	12 ,, ..	15th May 1956	.. ,,
3	Rongdhemali Middle Vernacular.	Bogdung	9 ,, ..	7th June 1956	.. ,,
4	Kariatolo-Pakhorijani Lower Primary.	Tinsukia	5 ,, ..	12th July 1956	.. ,,

Serial No.	Name of the Schools	Mauza	No. of bundles	Date of issue	Remarks
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
5	Kushal Konwar J. B.	.. Makum	10 ,, ..	14th July 1956	.. 1956.
6	Athengia Lower Primary	Doom-dooma	7 ,, ..	24th July 1956	.. "
7	Robor-guria Lower Primary.	Doom-dooma	3 ,, ..	3rd September 1956	.. "
8	Longgaon Lower Primary	Tirap	.. 5½ ,, ..	13th September 1956	.. "
9	Khalihamari Lower Primary.	Town	.. 16 ,, ..	4th January 1957	.. 1957.
10	Tokowani Lower Primary	Tingari	.. 7 ,, ..	12th January 1957	.. "
11	Lohali Lower Primary	Ghorbandi	8½ ,, ..	25th January 1957	.. "
12	Amguri-Murani Lower Primary.	Bhorbandi	6 ,, ..	25th January 1957	.. "
13	Sukan Fakhuri J. B.	.. Tingrai	.. 7 ,, ..	28th January 1957	.. "
14	Dhupabor Lower Primary	Rahmoria	10 ,, ..	15th February 1957	.. "
15	Ningshi Sonari Lower Primary.	Saikhowa	9 ,, ..	12th March 1957	.. "
16	Bapapung Lower Primary	Buridching	11 bundles	1st August 1958	.. 1958.
17	Lunpuria Lower Primary	Bogding	6½ ,, ..	12th January 1959	.. 1959.
18	Kanai Boruchora Lower Primary.	Lohol	.. 3 ,, ..	2nd August 1956	.. 1956.
19	Mohkhuli Lower Primary	Tipling	.. 9 ,, ..	9th August 1956	.. "
20	Naoholia Lower Primary	Tipling	.. 7 ,, ..	31st August 1956	.. "
21	Tongona Bongal Lower Primary.	Saikhowa	6 ,, ..	28th September 1956	.. "
22	Jilliguri Lower Primary	Modarkhai	7 ,, ..	24th January 1957	.. 1957.

(d)—No. Due to non-availability of C. I. sheets Government could not meet the demand of large number of educational institutions for C. I. sheets.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : In reply to (c) it is said that it is not a fact that no attention was paid to the eastern part of the subdivision, but of the names furnished for eastern part, I find that some of these schools are really situated in the western part and not eastern part, may I know whether the Government is aware of the fact that Dibrugarh Town is to the western Bogdung Mouza ?

Mr. SPEAKER : That can be referred to in a map and verified.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : In reply to (d) it is said that due to non-availability of C.I. sheets, Government could not meet the demand of large number of educational institutions and frames are exposed in sun and rain. May I know what steps Government have taken now to supply them with C.I. sheets ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) : In the month of February we have placed orders for 200 bundles which were allotted to us by the Supply Department and that quantity is in transit. We have placed orders for another 300 bundles in the 1st part of march. And as soon as it arrives it will be distributed by the School Boards.

Free Supply of Corrugated Iron Sheet to No.206, Upar Uban Lower Primary School in Saikhowa Mauza

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) asked :

202. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that commitment was made by the Secretary, School Board, Dibrugarh to supply free C. I. sheets to No.206, Upar Uban Lower Primary School in Saikhowa Mauza, *vide* his letter No.410, dated 1st May, 1956 ?
- (b) Whether it is a fact that C. I. sheets were distributed in 1956, 1957 and 1958 but no allotment has been made to this School as yet ?
- (c) Whether it is a fact that due to interference of the Board the Inspecting Staff could not honour the commitment mentioned in (a) above ?
- (d) If not, why the Secretary of the Board did not respect his own commitment in time ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

202. (a)—Yes.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—No.

(d)—Due to non-availability of C. I. sheets, the Secretary could not arrange supply.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA (Saikhowa) : The reply to (d) is "Due to non-availability of C. I. sheets, the Secretary could not arrange supply," but in reply to the previous question (No. 201(c)) it is stated that "It is not a fact that no attention was paid to the eastern part of the subdivision," my question is, what is this particular school escaped the notice? While C. I. sheets distributed in the year 1957, 1958 and 1959?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS : It has not escaped the notice but for want of sufficient quantity of C. I. sheets the demand of the school could not be met.

Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA : The Secretary, School Board gave assurance in 1956 supply to this school, but why the assurance could not be fulfilled although it is about three years now and allotments were made elsewhere after the assurance?

Mr. SPEAKER : Evidently the School Board has not got Assurance Committee.

Functions and duties of the Method and Organisation Department of the Assam Civil Secretariat

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUA (Amguri) asked:

203. Will the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) What are the functions and duties of the Method and Organisation Department of the Assam Civil Secretariat?

(b) What are the innovations and changes in the field of Organisation and working that have been brought about to justify further continuance of this Department?

(c) How far it is a fact that this Department is more an impediment than a help to the expeditious working of the Government machinery?

- (d) Whether it is a fact that an I. A. S. Officer of the Assam Government was trained abroad in Method and Organisation ?
- (e) If so, what contribution has he made in this field to justify his deputation abroad for such training at the cost of public money ?

Shri BIMALA PRASAD CHALIHA (Chief Minister)
replied:

203. (a)—The Organisation and Method Division has been set up to assist in improvement of administrative efficiency and help make the administration more suited to the needs of a welfare state. Its functions broadly are to study the administrative machinery in the different departments to find out the existing defects and devise ways and means for improvement.

(b)—The first report on the working of the Organisation and Method Division from the period 1st October, 1954, to 31st December, 1955, was published in October, 1956, and a copy is placed on the Library Table. The second report for the period 1956-1958 is being published soon and will be made available to the hon. Member in due course. Meanwhile, it may be indicated that the Organisation and Method Division has assisted broadly in the following matters:—

- (i) training of Government servants at various levels ;
 - (ii) inspection of Secretariat Departments, Offices of Heads of Departments, District Offices, etc ;
 - (iii) convening of meetings and conferences at various levels to consider the administrative weaknesses discovered in the course of inspection ;
 - (iv) streamlining of procedures, more especially in the Finance Department to bring about speedier disposal of work ;
 - (v) analysis of rate of disposal in different departments ;
 - (vi) revision, reprinting and devising of manuals and handbooks.
- (c)—This is not a fact.

(d)—No I. A. S. Officer of the Assam Government was trained abroad in Method and Organisation. One I. C. S. Officer was however deputed for the training in United States of America and United Kingdom sponsored by the Indian Institution of Public Administration which met all expenditure in connection with the training except salary.

(e)—The Officer has recently joined after deputation and it is too early to assess his contribution.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri): Can we expect this report on the working of the Organisation and Method Division for the period for 1956-1958 early ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance): It is being prepared and published very early.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH : When this I. C. S. Officer joined ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : About a couple of months back.

Conversion of the bund running from Gaurisagar to Dikhowmukh in Jukaichuk Mouza, Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked:

204. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that the road (new bund) built during the Ahom Reign, now running from Gaurisagar to Dikhowmukh in Jukaichuk Mouza, Sibsagar Subdivision deserve immediate consideration for its conversion from Bund to Bund-cum-Road ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that this conversion is strongly and urgently felt and demanded by the local people ?

(c) Whether Government are aware that this conversion will not cost much financial view point ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R. and B. Wing)] replied:

204. (a) & (b)—Yes, if the hon. Member means by (new bund) from Gaurisagar to Dikhowmukh the proposal will be put up to the Subdivisional Development Board and inclusion of the proposal in the Third Five Year Plan.

(c)—The proposal will cost Government Rs.1,05,000 approximately.

***Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH** (Amguri) : The road is there since the days of Ahom Kings, how Government can estimate that the proposal for having a bund on this existing road will cost Rs. 1,05,000.

***Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI** (Deputy Minister, P. W. D.) : That estimate has been prepared by experts.

Namti Karunasagar Samabaya Resom and Bayan Prashikshan Kendra in village Somdar, Dopdar Mouza, Sibsagar Subdivision

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH (Amguri) asked :

205. Will the Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving be pleased to state—

(a) Whether Government is aware that an institution by name Namti Karunasagar Samabaya Resom and Bayan Prashikshan Kendra has been started in the village Somdar in Dopdar Mauza, Sibsagar Subdivision ?

(b) Whether it is a fact that this institution is praying for financial help from the Government ?

(c) If so, why such help is not yet extended ?

(d) Whether Government propose to consider the prayer of the Institution and at an early date ?

Shri M. N. HAZARIKA (Minister-in-charge of Sericulture and Weaving) replied :

205. (a)—Yes.

(b)—An application from the Institution, viz., Namti Karunasagar Samabaya Resom and Bayan Prasikshan Kendra was received in the office of the Director of Sericulture and Weaving for financial help in the current year.

(c)—As there is no provision in this Departmental Budget for loans and grants to Co-operative bodies, the matter of granting subsidy to individual members of the Institution has been considered this year and ten selected muga growers are going to be given grants at the rate of Rs.150 each. They are all members of this Institution and their names are:—

1. Sri Deoram Khanikar.
2. Sri Betharam Khanikar.
3. Sri Dighola Pachani.
4. Sri Kotia Dutta.
5. Sri Dandidhar Rajkhowa.
6. Sri Jogen Barua.
7. Sri Golok Saikia.
8. Sri Thakur Gogoi.
9. Sri Phatik Gohain.
10. Sri Sibanath Chetia.

(d)—Does not arise in view of (b) and (c).

Duration of stay of Mobile Knitting and Embroidery Training Centre

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

206. Will the Minister, Industries be pleased to state—

- (a) Whether it is a fact that the duration of stay of Mobile Knitting and Embroidery Training Centre is for a period of six months at a place?

- (b) Why a lady helper is not appointed for the Jorhat Centre which is running for the last 3 months without a helper ?
- (c) Why no positive action is taken in this respect ?
- (d) Whether Government are aware that the trainees are suffering due to this ?
- (e) Why Government advertised the post of helper after the Centre was started ?

Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI (Minister, Industries) replied:

206.—(a) Yes.

(b)—The lady helper of the Jorhat Centre went on training to Delhi in November, 1958. There was no one available to take her place. The post was, therefore, advertised and a lady helper has since been appointed.

(c)—As at (b) above.

(d) —During the period when there was no lady helper the trainees felt some inconvenience which has since been removed.

(e)—It took sometime to obtain financial sanction and this caused some delay in advertising the post.

***Shrimati KOMOL KUMARI BARUA (Katanigaon):** What is the qualification of this Mistress ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** I do not know the qualification.

***Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI:** Why the post was not advertised in time while she went in last November ?

***Shri KAMAKHYA PRASAD TRIPATHI :** I agree that co-ordination and planning would have done better, but we did not think that it would take so long a time with the Finance Department and the result was that we got the sanction very late.

Management of Tea Garden Schools to be taken over by Government

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked :

207. Will the Minister-in-charge of Education be pleased to state—

(a) Why the management of tea garden schools has not yet been taken over by the Government in spite of the decision already taken by the Government ?

(b) Whether Government are aware that this has created a bitter feeling in the minds of the tea garden workers and their Sanghas ?

(c) If so, when the management of the tea garden schools will actually be taken over by the Government ?

Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education) replied:

207.—(a), (b) and (c).—No decision has yet been taken to take over the tea garden schools and the matter is still under consideration.

***Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI (Titabar):** Is it a fact that the Standing Labour Committee has decided that Government should take over the management of the tea garden schools ?

***Shri RADHIKA RAM DAS (Deputy Minister, Education):** Government is willing to take over the management of the schools but there is handicap with regard to the pay.

Mr. SPEAKER: This was explained to the House.

***Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI** Is Government aware that the Standing Labour Committee has decided that the management of the tea garden schools.

Mr. SPEAKER: He said that.

***Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA (Thowra):** ১৯৫৭ চনত মোৰ এটা প্রশ্নৰ উত্তৰত মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে উত্তৰ দিছিল যে It is under consideration আৰু দুবছৰ পিচত ১৯৫৯ চনৰ সেই উত্তৰটোকে দিছে যে It is under consideration এনেকৈ শিক্ষাত বাধা পৰা কথাটো চৰকাৰে বিবেচনা নকৰে নেকি ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH :** এই স্কুলবিলাক লবলৈ ধন লাগে। Education Department এ ধন পোৱা নাই। আৱশ্যকীয় ধন নহলে কাম কৰা টান।

***Shri DEVENDRA NATH HAZARIKA:** Whether Government propose to extend inspection to these tea garden L. P. Schools ?

***Shri RADHIKARAM DAS:** Inspection has already been extended to these tea garden schools. We have appointed 11 Sub-Inspectors for the purpose.

***Shri DURGESWAR SAIKIA:** চাব এইটো সঁচানে যে আগতে Management য়ে স্কুল বিলাক চৰকাৰক দিও বুলিছিল আৰু এটা টায়েলো দিও বুলিছিল এতিয়া তেওঁলোকে স্কুলবিলাক চৰকাৰক দিব নোৱাৰে বুলি কয় ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister, Education):** স্কুলবিলাক চৰকাৰক দিব নোৱাৰে বুলি কোৱা নাই আৰু চৰকাৰে স্কুলবিলাক ললে টায়েল দিব বুলি কোৱা কথাটোও জনা নাই। কথা হল, স্কুলবিলাক তেওঁলোকৰ ঘৰত থকাত বন্ধুৰ লৰা-ছোৱালীৰ পঢ়াত অসুবিধা হয় আৰু আনফালে আমাৰ Inspecting Staff ৰো পৰিদৰ্শন কৰাত বহুত ব্যাঘাট ঘটে। সকলো পিনৰ পৰা সংগঠন কৰিবলৈ ধন লাগে বৰ্তমান অসুবিধা হল Department ৰ জেপ খালি গতিকে ধন নোপোৱালৈ একো কৰিব নোৱাৰে।

***Shri MOHI KANTA DAS:** Have Government received Resolution No.6 adopted by the Assam Political Conference at Dibrugarh recommending to take over these tea garden schools by the Government ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** মই আগতেই কৈছো যে চৰকাৰে ধন হাতত নপৰালৈ কাম হাতত লবলৈ অক্ষম।

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): বৰ্তমান এইটো জানেনে যে কংগ্ৰেছ চৰকাৰে বন্ধুৰ ভোটতেই নিৰ্ভৰ কৰি চলি আছে।

Mr. SPEAKER: That would not be quite pertinent so far as this question is concerned.

***Shri SARBESWAR BARDOLOI:** যদি Department ৰ টকা নাই এইবাবৰ বাজেটত সেই টকা ধৰা নহল কিয় ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** এইবাবৰ বাজেটত নধৰাৰ কাৰণ হ'ল আমাৰ Garden management ৰ লগত এতিয়াও correspondence চলি আছে, যে তেওঁলোকে আমাক আৱশ্যকীয় টকা দিব পাৰেনে নোৱাৰে।

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** What will be the estimated cost of taking these schools ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** প্রথমতে ৮ লাখ টকা লগা হ'ব ইয়াৰ উপৰিও আৰু এটা আহকাল আছে আমাৰ প্ৰাথমিক শিক্ষকৰ Pay Scale তকৈ I.T.A. Scale ৰ বেছি।

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARI:** চাহ বাগিছাৰ লৰা ছোৱালীৰ শিক্ষাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে টকা নাই বুলি কয় এনেদৰেয়ে সেই লৰা ছোৱালীবিলাকক পঢ়াশুনাত অসুবিধা হোৱা নাইনে ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** অৱশ্যে ক'ব পাৰি অলপ অসুবিধা হ'ব পাৰে (হাৰ্হি)

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARI:** তেতিয়া এটা অংশ দুৰ্বল হৈ যাব বুলি নাভাৰেনে ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH:** নিশ্চয় ভাবো। ইয়াৰ লগতে ভাবো কোন চৰকাৰে ভাবে যে বগুৰাৰ লৰাছোৱালীৰ কাৰণে কণা হওক খোঁৰা হওক এক প্ৰকাৰ অনুষ্ঠান আছে (হাৰ্হি) কিন্তু আমাৰ বহুত গাঁৱত আমি শতকৰা ৫৬ টা ৬ বছৰৰ পৰা ১১ বছৰ বয়সৰ লৰাছোৱালীৰ কাৰণে স্কুলেই দিব পৰা সম্ভৱ হোৱা নাই।

Construction of an improved bridge over the Bhogdoi River near the Jorhat Town on the Assam Trunk Road

Shri SARBESWAR BORDOLOI (Titabar) asked:

208. Will the Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. and B.) be pleased to state—

- (a) Why the Government is not taking any steps to construct an improved bridge over the Bhogdoi river near the Jorhat Town on the Assam Trunk Road ?
- (b) Whether Government are aware that this narrow bridge is causing trouble to thousand of people and vehicles every day ?
- (c) If so, what step Government have taken to move the Central Government to execute the resolution adopted by this House in the Budget Session of 1957 regarding construction of this bridge ?
- (d) How many letters were written to the Central Government insisting to give effect to the said resolution of this House since it was adopted ?
- (e) What answers were received from the Central Government to these communications ?

Shri GIRINDRA NATH GOGOI [Deputy Minister, Public Works Department (R&B.) Wing.] replied :

208. (a) The Government have been trying their utmost to construct a improved bridge (for two-way traffic) over the Bhogdoi river near the Jorhat Town on the Assam Trunk Road.

(b)—Yes.

(c)—As desired by the State Legislature the Government of India have been moved from time to time for construction of a new bridge at the existing side.

(d)—Altogether 6 letters and 6 telegrams have been sent to the Government of India in connection to the construction of the new bridge.

(e)—The Government of India's letter dated 23rd May, 1958 stated that 'It is understood that the population of Jorhat Town is about 60,000 at present. Before further action is taken on the estimate, it is requested that the correct figure of the present population of Jorhat Town may be intimated to this office at an early date.' In their letter dated 18th June, 1958, the Government of India informed the State Government that "As the Central Government have not yet assumed liability for the construction, improvement and maintenance of the roads in Municipal Towns (with a population of more than 20,000) served by National Highways, it is regretted that it is not possible to make any contribution from the National Highway Funds, towards the cost of the proposed work".

The Government of India were moved again on 25th June, 1958 to reconsider the proposal on the ground that the bridge falls outside the Municipal area, but in spite of seven reminders no reply has been received from the Government of India on the subject, the last telegraphic reminder being issued on 5th March, 1959.

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur):** What will be the cost of doubling the existing bridge ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: এইটো যোৱা বছৰত হলে ৮৫ লাখ লাগিলে হেতেন কিন্তু এতিয়া সামগ্ৰীৰ দাম বাঢ়িছে গতিকে ৯৥ লাখ টকাৰ দৰ্কাৰ হব।

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Is it not possible to spare that amount from the State Budget for construction of the bridge ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: এতিয়াও সেইটো National High Way হোৱাৰ কথা চলিয়েই আছে আৰু সেই মন্ত্ৰে ৰাজ্যিক চৰকাৰে লেখালেখি কৰিয়েই আছে ; সেই অবস্থাত এখন দলং ৰাজ্যিক কাণ্ডৰ পৰা দিলে আমাৰ দাবীটো কিছু শিথিল হ'ব গতিকেই আমাৰ টকাৰে দলংখন দিবৰ মন কৰা নাই।

***Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI:** Will Government consider the possibility of constructing this bridge from the State finance ?

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: তাৰ আগতে কথাটো নীমাংসা হলেহে স্তব্ধ হ'ব।

Regarding the Doctor-in-charge of Mainamata Leprosy Dispensary in Barpeta Subdivision

Shri SRIHARI DAS (Barpeta) asked :

209. Will the Minister-in-charge of Medical be pleased to state—

- (a) Who is the Doctor-in-charge of Mainamata Leprosy Dispensary in the Barpeta Sub-division ?
- (b) What is his qualification ?
- (c) Whether he is a registered Doctor ?
- (d) If not, on what basis he was appointed superseding the claims of other qualified, experienced and senior registered Doctors ?
- (e) From which institution he has passed out and in which year ?
- (f) Whether the Institution is recognised by the Assam Government or by the Union Government or by the All-India Medical Council ?
- (g) If the answers to (c) and (f) are in the negative, whether Government propose to take strong measures against such appointment and against the appointing authority concerned ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Medical Minister)
replied :

209. (a)—Shri Asanuddin Ahmed of village Palhaji of Mauza Barpeta.

(b)—He is L. M. F. (National) from Bogra Medical Institute.

(c)—No.

(d)—Appointed by Chairman, Local Board, Barpeta. As regards basis of his appointment superseding the claims of other qualified, experienced and senior doctors, it is the responsibility of the Local Board concerned and not Government.

(e)—Passed from Bogra Medical Institution, East Pakistan in the year 1956-57.

(f)—No.

(g)—In view of the appointment of this Doctor being made by the Barpeta Local Board, Government cannot take any other action then asking the Chairman of the Local Board concerned to report as to why such a medical man has been appointed by the Board and to consider the desirability of appointing another Medical Officer with a requisite qualifications as required.

Adjournment motion about the failure of Government to save the lives and properties of the citizen of the State residing near East Pakistan border

Mr. SPEAKER: Now I have an adjournment motion moved by Mr. Upadhaya about the depredation by Pakistan in the border of Cachar. The same difficulty which stood in the way of a Resolution of a similar type stands here also because firstly this is a continuing matter which forms part of the Adjournment Motion and Secondly, according to the Rules of Procedure we are not in a position to interrupt the business of the House when the Demands are being considered. So this Resolution is not admitted.

DEMAND FOR GRANTS

GRANT No.18

"38.—Medical"

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,46,24,700 (Rupees one crore forty-six lakhs, twenty four thousand seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of head "38.—Medical".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,46,24,700 (Rupees one crore forty six lakhs, twenty four thousand and seven hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "38.—Medical".

GRANT No. 19

"39.—Public Health"

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Medical): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,27,47,900 (Rupees one crore, twenty-seven lakhs, forty-seven thousand and nine-hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,27,47,900 (Rupees one crore, twenty seven lakhs, forty seven thousand and nine-hundred) be granted to Minister-in charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head "39.—Public Health".

Shri GHANASHYAM TALUKDAR (Sorbhog): Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs.1,46,24,700 under grant No.18 Major head "38.—Medical", at page 176 of the Budget, be reduced by Re.1. i.e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs.1,46,24,700 do stand reduced by Re.1.

The purpose of moving my Cut Motion is to criticise the demand).

Sir, to-day we have come to know that the Medical Department and the Public Health Department have been amalgamated and as a result of this amalgamation, a great mess has been created. In this new set up we have seen that the senior officers have become junior now and all the senior Public Health Officers are now under the junior Medical Officers. This is a great injustice done to the Public Health Officers and therefore immediate steps should be taken by the Government to re-organise this Department and see that those people who were senior in the Public Health Department are put in their original position.

Coming to the Ayurvedic College in Gauhati, Government has not followed any definite policy with regard to spreading of indigenous medicine. Of course, an Ayurvedic College has been established in Gauhati and an amount of Rs. 97,184 has been provided for the College. Huge building have also been constructed but as a result of all these nothing concrete has come out. In this College there are only 13 students where as there one Principal and 7 other Lecturers for the College. That means one Lecturer has only 2½ students. Due to this reasons students are not attracted to this College. They do not get any preference or avenue of employment after they have passed from the College. As a result, those who are willing to take up medical line, go to the Dibrugarh Medical College. So we have seen that there is an utter waste of money from the public exchequer and that is why to I want to suggest to Government the following two courses —

1. If Government cannot enthuse the people of our country to go to that College and study there, then it is better for the Government to close down the institution, and,

2. If Government is really sincere in their endeavour to spread the indigenous medicines then it is the duty of the Government to make this institution a good one so that students are attracted to the college and so that students who passed out of this College could get employment. We have seen that in other States much preference is given to indigenous medicine and that Governments are taking a good care of the Ayurvedic Colleges started in those States. But here in Assam nothing as such was done excepting construction of building for the College and appointing of teachers. If we turn to Bombay State, there we will see that there are 2 Ayurvedic Teaching Intitution maintained by the Government and 12 Government Aided. There are also 3 Ayurvedic Hospitals maintained by the Government, 11 Government Aided Hospitals, 46 Government Ayurvedic dispensaries and 285 Government Aided Dispensaries. Coming to Bihar, there we will find 1 Government Ayurvedic College at Patna, 1 S. Y. N. Ayurvedic College at Bhagalpur, 2. A. S. K. Ayurvedic College at Begusari, 1 Shiva gonga Ayurvedic Mahabidyalaya at Patna. There are 10 Government Dispensaries, 150 Local Board Dispensaries which are maintained by the Local Boards, 120 Subsidised Dispensaries and 8 maintained by Municipal Boards. Coming to U. P. we find there is one purely Government managed College, 16 partly managed by Government and 3 other Colleges maintained by the public. There are 589 Government dispensaries, 420 Government aided dispensaries. Coming to Benares Hindu University, we find there 2 Professors, 3 Readers, 24 Lecturers, 3 Tutors and Part time Lecturers, (a voice what is the number of the students). The number is about 1,000. The number of students are greater because there Government is giving more encouragement. Coming to Mysore, we find there 5 Institutions. 1. Government College of India Medicine, Mysore, 2. Taranath Ayurveda Vidyalaya Bellery, 3. Sudha Ayurveda Vidyalaya Society, Bijapur, 4. Sudha Ayurveda Vidyalaya, Unani Dispensaries. There are two Ayurvedic Hospitals. 509 Ayurvedic, Unani Dispensaries. 71 Government Dispensaries. Coming to Rajasthan, there are 2 Government Ayurvedic Colleges at Jaipur and Udaipur. There are recognised Institutions. The number of Government Ayurvedic Dispensaries 62, Aided Private and Nature Cure Hospitals are 620, Ayurvedic Dispensaries 5. Local Ayurvedic Practitioners 36. In Madras we find, there is one Government College and the number of Government Ayurvedic Dispensaries 5. Local Fund Dispensaries 367 and the number of Private Dispensaries 27.

So if we compare the case of Assam with that of other States, we find is far as Ayurvedic treatment and medicine are concerned the other State Governments are giving greater attention and encouragement than our State.

I do not know why our Government has not made the Ayurvedic College an attractive one. If they do not give proper attention and encouragement, it may better be abolished. I would request the Government to give due attention to the Ayurvedic system of medicine so that our indigenous medicine could be developed like other States. If any one visits our Ayurvedic College he will notice a feeling of depression among the Teachers and Students. The Teachers will say that it is just by circumstances that they are here. So if you want to develop it you must give due encouragement and facilities to the teachers and students. Steps must be taken to develop our indigenous medicine. If our Government work in that way then only I believe Ayurvedic system of treatment and medicine can spread in the country.

Sir, we have heard about a Second Medical College to be established in our State. In reply to a question in the Parliament, Government of India said that they had up till that time received no proposal to that effect from our State. If that is so, it is very sad indeed. Again our present Medical Department is managed by a Director who was driven out of the Medical College, because he did not obey his seniors. He has no qualification for Public Health. He is a diploma holder of female disease. In the Assam Medical College it is found that the present Principal failed to maintain discipline. The relation between the teachers and the students are inimical. The bad behaviour of Dr. P. Barua is wellknown. For his ill-treatment one Dr. A. Deshmukh had to leave his teaching job and joined another job. The Principal is not following the Government directions to hand over the charge to Dr. B. Dowka, Assistant Professor of Surgery. The Post-graduate degree in Surgery and Medicine has not been started there. The Principal remains mostly out from the College.

Now Coming to the Gauhati Civil Hospital, there also we find there is great mismanagement. The number of beds are very few. More than 90 per cent of the patients are refused admission daily for want of accommodation. There are about 245 patients in indoor including extra beds. Some patients lie on the floor. There are only 9 Doctors and more than 200 out-door patients come to the Hospital, so the patients do not get proper treatment. The indoor patients are also required to buy medicine from the market. These patients are not properly attended to. According to the suggestion of the Indian Medical Council, for every 10 patients one Doctor is necessary. This Hospital is serving practically the whole of lower Assam. The number of patients seeking surgical treatment is not less than that of the Assam Medical College. But the number of Surgical workers are only 2. One separate Ward has been created and thousands of rupees have been spent, but there is no facility provided for the patients for that ward. During the summer season the patients have to come out of the Ward as there are no fans.

The Maternity Ward is at present managed by the student nurses. Proper care is not given to the inmates of the Maternity Ward. There is great mismanagement in the work of the Gauhati Hospital, we find. Many patients from different parts of the district and from other places of Lower Assam come; they are refused admission and they go away disappointed every day. They do not get proper treatment.

Coming to the Tezpur Mental Hospital, there also were the sad plight of one Warder being murdered. One Warder's ear was cut and he was also beaten. The pay scale of the staff is not very good. The Union which is there is not yet recognised by the Government. I think it should have been recognised long ago. The Lady Warders are not given proper protection. They should be given proper protection. This is also understaffed. This is an important institution, Sir. We are spending a huge amount of money, but for mis-management it is not giving good service. There is chaos and mismanagement everywhere. If necessary some more money should be provided, so that this Mental Hospital may be run efficiently.

Sir, Government took a policy that there should be one dispensary in every five miles, but we have seen in some places there are dispensaries in every two miles while there are some places where there are no dispensaries even at a distance of 12 to 15 miles. I want to urge upon the Government and particularly to the Medical Minister to look into this discriminatory treatment between place to place. If the Government make a principal, they should follow it strictly and not break this principal. If this is done, then surely Sir, proper and even facilities of Medical help cannot be ensured. We have many dispensaries where there are no doctors, there are no compounders. Such dispensaries only exist in name and they totally fail to cater to the medical needs of the people. It is also noticed that medical facilities or dispensaries are given only to such places where the people are very much vocal and such facilities are denied to places the people of which are not so vocal even though these people are much backward in all respect. The result of such a policy pursued by Government is that actually needy people remain deprived of these facilities.

Lastly, Sir, our Government seems to be attaching considerable importance on family planning. I do not know whether our Medical Minister will follow this family planning himself. But I urge upon the Government and other leaders of public opinion to lay considerable stress on this vital aspect of our national life. I hope Government will take all necessary steps to see that our plan in this respect is implemented. Although I have many more things to speak on this family planning, I do not like to dwell upon it at any great length.

With these few words, Sir, I resume my seat.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the total provision of Rs. 1,46,24,700 under grant No. 18 Major head "38,—Medical" at page 176 of the budget, be reduced by Re. 1, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 1,46,24,700 do stand reduced by Re. 1.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I would just like to say only a few words. I find from the Budget that there are two Heads, one under grant No. 18 Medical and another under Grant No. 19 Public Health (Medical Minister—at what page?) Page is 176 for Medical and 201 for Public Health.

Sir, it has been stated that these two departments Medical and Public Health have been amalgamated long ago. If we have amalgamated these two departments, then I see no justification for bringing these two separate Grants for the one and the same department. I would like to know from the Minister in charge what this amalgamation means, whether it is only a myth or a reality. If it is a reality then how he justifies these two different Grants when these two departments have been amalgamated.

Secondly I have received complaints from various places that this amalgamation is only at the top, that the Director of Health Service is supposed to be also the Director of Public Health Department, and except that this amalgamation has not been extended to the lower strata. In many places we find Public Health Dispensaries have been shown separately from Medical Dispensaries. Therefore I ask whether this amalgamation has been introduced only to make somebody the Director of Health Services, or there is some real meaning behind this amalgamation. Not only regarding establishment but also in the matter of personnel this amalgamation has not been taken to its logical sequence. This amalgamation should also mean that those persons who have been working in either of the departments since their appointment occupying senior positions should be given senior over those who have been appointed after them in any one of these positions two departments. But we have seen that so far as the people working in the Public Health department are concerned, by this amalgamation they have been made juniors. I would therefore like to know from the medical Minister how this amalgamation has been carried out, what are the principles followed in this respect, what are the principles followed in determining seniority in respect of the people serving in these two departments. Because without these things—being strictly carried out in accordance with a well formulated principle, the amalgamation seems to me myth and not a reality.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY: On a point of clarification, Sir, Mr Deka was to move a cut motion.

Mr. SPEAKER: There is no more cut motion excepting one.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় সদনৰ সকলো সদস্যৰ যিসকল এবাৰ টংলাইলৈ গৈছে তেখেত সকলে টংলাৰ পানীৰ অবস্থাৰ বিষয়ে নিশ্চয় অনুভব কৰিছে। মোৰ বন্ধু কংগ্ৰেছ প্ৰেচিডেণ্ট টংলাইলৈ যাওঁতে তাত পানীৰ দুৰবস্থা দেখি তেখেতে Report ও দিছিল। মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে নিজেও গৈ দেখি আহিছে। তাৰ পিচৰ পৰা কেৱাখনো memorandum আৰু representation তেনেতে পাইছে। অসমৰ Commissioner গৈছিল আৰু তেখেতেও report দিছে। Public Health Inspector এ দিয়া চিঠি অনুযায়ী টংলাৰ পৰা পানী পৰীক্ষাৰ কাৰণে পঠোৱাও হৈছিল। আগতে সবভোগৰ পৰা যোৱা পানী বেলেৰে আহিছিল এতিয়া সিও বন্ধ হৈ গৈছে। টংলাৰ বাইজে কেবাটাও কুৱা খান্দি চালে আটাইবোৰতে বঙা পানী ওলায়। এই পানী খালে মানুহৰ অকল বেমাৰেই নহয় কেবাখনো মানুহ মৰিছেও। এনেকুৱা দুৰবস্থাৰ প্ৰতি সজাগ হবৰ বাবে আৰু টংলাৰ মানুহক ৰক্ষা কৰিবৰ বাবে সকলো মন্ত্ৰী, আৰু সদনৰ সকলোৰে দুটি অকৰ্ষণ কৰিলে যাতে টংলাত যি Water Supply Scheme লোৱা হৈছে সেইটো যেন কাৰ্য্যকৰী কৰা হয় এয়ে মোৰ কব লগীয়,

Mr. SPEAKER: May I suggest one thing. I would like to bring to the notice of the Hon. Members that to-day is the last date for voting on demands. Now it is 11. 30 a.m. and yet we have to discuss some of the important departments like Public Works Department, Forests, Irrigation and Transport etc. I am afraid, at 4 O'clock to-day those items which cannot be discussed till then will have to be guillotined. So I leave it to the sense of the House to utilise the time that is available at the disposal of the House, judiciously. If they want to spend much time in discussing about Medical, Forests and the like, then it will not be possible for them to participate adequately in discussion of Public Works Department.

which is an important item before the House. I thought there would not be much discussion on Medical. I was given to understand that there will be only some formal discussions on this subject as was the case in respect of Co-operative and Cottage Industries. I would therefore request the hon. Members to be brief in regard to their observations on these matters so that they may be in a position to devote some more time in discussing the other important items such as Public Works Department in which, I am informed, more hon. Members are interested.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East) : Only in Civil Works, Sir, it will take some time and also a few minutes in Medical.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) : Sir, so far as the Appropriation Bill is concerned, it cannot be presented before the House before the Demands are voted after which also we will have to take some action. So I would request the Speaker to consider whether it will be possible to present the Appropriation Bill before the recess.

Mr. SPEAKER : Yes, if the hon. Member can finish earlier, then we can finish the other items.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : What I propose is this supposing the discussions continue till four, under the Rules the motions will have to be guillotined. Thereafter the Appropriation Bill will be moved and I don't think there will be much discussion on it after we have had discussion on the Budget demands for six days. The Appropriation Bill will not take more than a few minutes and we are sitting till 5 O'clock.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : After these demands are voted we have to get the signature of the Governor. This cannot be done until demands are voted. Therefore, I feel the demands should be voted before the lunch break.

Mr. SPEAKER : I am advised by my Secretariat that guillotining may take place five minutes earlier, so that all these finance matters may be finished by 4.10. The Appropriation Bill in the House of Commons take two minutes. We may take a little more time, say, five minutes. Even if we finish all these things by 4.15, I am advised again that the signature of the Governor may take an hour. So, by about 5.15 the Appropriation Bill will be duly signed by the Governor and will be made available to the Hon'ble Finance Minister. I, of course, do not know whether he will have time to communicate to the various districts that the Assembly has passed the financial demands and the Governor has assented to the Appropriation Bill. Without that I am told the districts will not be in a position to draw any money tomorrow morning.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : If possible, the Appropriation Bill may be moved by about 3 so that we may take necessary action to get Governor's assent.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : In that case Mr. Ahmed will create difficulty for himself. In Appropriation Bill the members may like to speak about subjects which are guillotined. That may take us to 4 O'clock.

Mr. SPEAKER : That will depend on the Speaker whether he would permit it. Any way, I suppose we continue till 4 O'clock.

Dr. GHANASYAM DAS [North Salmara (Reserved for Scheduled Caste)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, I rise to oppose the Cut Motion and support the demand moved by the Minister of Health. In doing so, I would like to give a few suggestions. I do not propose to make a long speech as the time at our disposal of very short.

I quite appreciate the suggestion given by Hon. Leader of the Opposition. I also think that these two departments should have been under one head. I hope this will be done in future.

In this connection I want to thank the Department for doing their level best to make an all-round improvement in the Department. But due to certain handicaps the progress is very slow. The Department has to depend on the Public Works Department for the implementation of various schemes. Therefore, I suggest that Government should think of creating a separate wing of the Public Works Department under this Department, at least for a temporary period.

Now, Sir, I want to point out that I have found that dispensaries are being established not exactly on the lines of the recommendation of the Bhoire Committee. In future dispensaries should be established on merit alone and not by any other influence or public demand. I have seen two health units have been established within 10 miles. That is not fair. I think this is a mistake which was committed in the past. Such dispensaries should not be established near National Extension Service blocks. If this is done there will be criticism from the public.

Sir, another serious problem, which has a social bearing, is leprosy. I am not happy about what has so far been done in this regard. I feel that an extensive campaign should be undertaken all over the State. The Government of India are agreeable to help us in this respect if extensive measures are taken to control leprosy in submontane areas in the northern side of the State, in the Mikir Hills and other areas. The incidence of leprosy is not decreasing, rather it is spreading. Therefore, we must know the exact position with regard to this disease. Therefore I suggest that Government should organise at least three survey teams to make an extensive survey. Survey undertaken by the Injectors or by one man is not enough. As far as I remember in 1925 or 1926, certain teams were organised by the Department. I do not know why they are not functioning now.

Similar is the case of with kala-azar. Though the incidence of this disease has decreased, there are some resistant cases. The disease has become endemic in certain areas, particularly in submontane and tribal areas. There have been some deaths also. There is, therefore, necessity for creating an investigation unit, either under the Medical College or the Pasteur Institute. We are afraid there may be recrudescence of this disease in future.

Then, Sir, the question of unification of cadre has been raised from various quarters and organisations including the Indian Medical Association. Many States have given effect to this, but our State has not given much importance to it. This has created general discontent much among some of the medical men in the service, which is bound to affect the efficiency of the

service. I urge on the Government to reconsider their attitude and try to unify the cadre in such a way that efficiency is maintained. When Licensure Course has been abolished, I do not know what is the difficulty in unifying the cadre.

About amalgamation, things have not much improved. I would like to cite one instance in this regard. Government has appointed Regional Deputy Directors of Health Services and one of the officers posted at Gauhati said that he had very little work to do there.

If there is no work for him the post should be abolished and the money diverted to some other head. But I feel there is enough work for him, because we have taken up so many preventive schemes and this officer may concentrate his attention in organising various campaigns, like hook-worm campaign, leprosy campaign and soon. As a matter of fact he is insisting, to have some beds in the Civil Hospital at Gauhati, instead of his going round and organising the Department in the periphery. Therefore, this should be looked into very carefully.

As regards reorganisation I would like to cite an instance. There is general discontentment among the members of the Assistant Surgeon II cadre. Recently Government promoted some Assistant Surgeon II. to Assistant Surgeon I. Some of them are thinking of refusing this promotion. They say because they are retiring after a month or so that is why they have no chance for promotion. In this connection I want to mention the case of one Doctor Assistant Surgeon II. He has got 29 years and some months' service, somehow he took up the condensed course and passed M.B. B.S., but his case was not taken into consideration for promotion although he has passed the M.B., B.S. course. Neither was he confirmed as Assistant Surgeon I nor he has been promoted from Assistant Surgeon II. He still continues in a temporary post. I do not know what are the reasons for all these things. This question should be given attention to by the Government because it is creating confusion in the minds of our doctors. There is also a lot of criticism in this regard.

Then another point Sir, I have seen in the budget that the same amount was allotted as grant to the Assam Medical Council, year by year. As you know, Sir, now the number of registered medical practitioners has tremendously increased and as a result the volume of work, has also increased because this Assam Medical Council has to carry on various kinds of works in the interest of the medical profession and the public. Now, for want of funds this Council has not been able to convene sub-committee meetings or hold more sittings in one year. Only Rs. 700 has been allotted to this Council whereas at least Rs. 2,000 would be necessary. I hope Government will consider this very important question in future.

Now, regarding the procedure and practice in many hospitals there is a lot of discontentment and dissatisfaction among the doctors. Some of the doctors are given a share of the hospital income which they get from X-ray or Laboratory works etc. while others are not. For example, some doctors have to work sometimes for 24 hours. Suppose at midnight a doctor is called to attend a labour case, in which he or she may be required to work all the night, but for that extra he or she is not given anything. So I would like to suggest that the hospital income accrued

from X' Ray or Laboratory departments should be pooled into the Hospital fund. There may be Special allowances given to doctors. This question was discussed by the medical associations and organisations also. Therefore, this question should be reviewed so that practice may be stopped and instead a special allowance or Non-practising allowance may be given.

Then, another more point, Sir, and I will conclude. I want to suggest that Eye Specialists should be appointed in different important hospital of the State. I suggest that posts of Eye specialists should be created in the hospitals at Gauhati, Silchar, Jorhat, etc.

I hope Government will take all my suggestions into consideration and I hope things will improve in the near future.

With these words Sir, I resume my seat.

Shri MOHIDHAR PEGOO [Jorhat (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, বিভাগীয় ন্ত্রী মহোদয়ে ডাক্তারী বিভাগৰ শিতানত যিটো ১৮ নং মঞ্জুৰী এই সদনত দাঙি ধৰিছে— তাক সমৰ্থন কৰি প্ৰসঙ্গতে দুই চাৰি আঘাৰ কথাৰে কেইটামান পৰামৰ্শ আগবঢ়াব খোজোঁ।

আমাৰ দেশৰ নিচিনা এখন দুখীয়া আৰু অস্বাস্থ্যকৰ ঠাইত ডাক্তারী বিভাগটো যে কিমান গুৰুতৰ বিষয় তাক বোধকৰোঁ নকলেও হ'ব। এই সম্পৰ্কে মই বিশেষ আলোচনা নকৰি মাত্ৰ কেইটামান পৰামৰ্শ সদনত দাঙি ধৰিম।

অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, কোৱা বাহুল্য যে আমাৰ দেশত এতিয়াও চিকিৎসালয় আৰু অভিজ্ঞ ডাক্তৰ দুয়োটাৰে যথেষ্ট অভাৱ পৰিলক্ষিত হৈছে। যোৱা কেইবছৰৰ ভিতৰত যি বিলাক ৰাজ্যিক চিকিৎসালয় চৰকাৰে হাতত লৈছিল সেই বিলাকৰ কাৰণে ১৯৫৬-৫৭ চনৰে পৰা ঘৰ সজা কামেই সম্পূৰ্ণ হোৱা নাই। এই বিভাগৰ পৰা মই জানিব পাৰিছোঁ যে ৰাজ্যিক চিকিৎসালয় বিলাকৰ ঘৰানুষ্ঠান কৰিবলৈ আমাৰ কাৰিগৰ মানুহৰ অভাৱ হৈছে আৰু এই কাম বিলাক সাধাৰণতে Public Works Department এ কৰে। Public Works Department ৰ কৰ্মচাৰী সকলৰ ভিতৰতে কাৰিকৰী লোকৰ অভাৱ যথেষ্ট আছে আৰু তেওঁবিলাকৰ অন্যান্য নিয়মিত কামৰ বাবেই কাৰিকৰী লোকৰ অভাৱত সেই কাম-বিলাকো সময়মতে সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰি তুলিব নোৱাৰে। এইটো বৰ দুঃখৰ বিষয় যে, তিনিচাৰি বছৰ আগতে হাততলোৱা জনস্বাস্থ্য সম্পৰ্কীয় আচনি বিলাকৰ অৰ্থাৎ ৰাজ্যিক চিকিৎসালয় বিলাক আজিও সম্পূৰ্ণ নোহোৱা অৱস্থাত থকাত ইয়াৰ দ্বাৰাই বাইজৰ যি অপকাৰ হৈছে তাক কোৱা বাহুল্য মাথোঁ। সেই কাৰণে মই আশাকৰোঁ চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে যথেষ্ট সন্মোৰণ দিব আৰু এই সম্পূৰ্ণ ঘৰ বিলাক Public Works Department এ নোৱাৰিলে স্বাস্থ্যবিভাগে নিজে হাতত লৈ সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰিব। মই জনাত চৰকাৰে যোৱা বছৰ ২৭৫ অনুচ্ছেদৰ পৰা ১৯৫৬-৫৭ চনত ৬খন চিকিৎসালয় মঞ্জুৰ কৰিছিল কিন্তু আজিলৈকে সেই বিলাকৰ কাম আৰম্ভকে হোৱা নাই। মই আশাকৰোঁ এই বিলাক কাম চৰকাৰে যেন বিশেষ তৎপৰতাৰে সমাধা কৰে।

ইয়াৰ পিচত মই এটা কথা চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টিগোচৰলৈ আনিব খুজিছোঁ যে, বৰ্তমান অসম দেশত বিশেষ প্ৰচলিত চিকিৎসা পদ্ধতি অজ্জলোকৰ হাতত পাবিলে মানুহৰ জীৱনীশক্তি নষ্টকাৰী কিছমান ঔষধ যেনে Sulpha Drugs অনিয়মিত ৰে ব্যৱহাৰ কৰিবলৈ দিয়ে। তাৰ ভিতৰত M.&B. 693 No. টো প্ৰধান

বুলি কব পাৰি। এই বিষয়ত Sulpha Drugs বিলাক সাধাৰণ সাধাৰণ দোকান বা যেই সেই মানুহে বিক্ৰি কৰিব পৰাটো বা পাব পৰাটো নিতান্ত বিপদজনক কথা বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস। বিজ্ঞ লোকৰ হাতত পৰিলে এই Drug বিলাকে কাম দিলেও অমিডিক্ট লোকৰ হাতত পৰি ই জনসাধাৰনৰ বিষত লা হয়। সেই কাৰণে চৰকাৰে এইবিষয়ে দৃষ্টি দিব বুলি আশা কৰিলো।

তাৰ পিচত এই সদনতেই এজন সদস্যই আয়ুৰ্বেদিক চিকিৎসা পদ্ধতিৰ সম্বন্ধে উল্লেখ কৰিছে। এই পদ্ধতিৰে চিকিৎসাৰ উন্নতি সহায় কৰাৰ ময়ো পক্ষপাতী। অসমত অন্যান্য ৰাজ্যৰ নিচিনাকৈ উন্নত ধৰণৰ আয়ুৰ্বেদিক কলেজ আৰু গবেষণা-গাৰ আমাৰ নাই অথচ আমাৰ ইয়াৰ হাবি জল্লৰ বাহক, অশোক, অৰ্জুন আৰু কেত বিলাক অতি লাগতীয়া ঔষধ গছ পোৱা যায়। ডাক্তাৰী বিভাগেও এই সম্বন্ধে গবেষণা কৰি ইয়াক কামত লগাব পাৰে। ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও আজিৰ আৰ্থিক অনাটনৰ দিনত মূল্য কম — অথচ উপকাৰী হয় — আন হাতে শৰীৰৰ অপকাৰ নকৰা Dr. Hahiman ৰ Homeopathy, Dr. Sumessher ৰ ১২টা tissue remedies; deise kuneহৰ Naturapathy আদিত জোৰ দিলে ৰাইজৰ বিশেষ উপকাৰ হয়। আমেৰিকা আৰু জাৰ্মানৰ দৰে উন্নত দেশতো এই পদ্ধতি প্ৰচলিত। এনোপেথিক পদ্ধতিৰ লগতে যদি এই পদ্ধতিবোৰ লগ লগাই দিয়ে আৰু বিশেষকৈ কম্পাউণ্ডৰ সকলক এই সম্পৰ্কে কিছু জ্ঞান দিয়া হয় তেনেহলে বিষয়ত ঔষধ প্ৰয়োগ বা হকে অহকে এফেড্ৰিন পেনিচিলিন আদি প্ৰয়োগ কৰা চিকিৎসাতকৈ বহুত বেচি উপকাৰ হব বুলি মোৰ বিশ্বাস। মই বিশেষকৈ স্বাস্থ্যমন্ত্ৰীক অনুৰোধ কৰো তেখেতে যেন এই নিৰ্দ্দোষ পদ্ধতিবোৰৰ প্ৰতি বিশেষ দৃষ্টি ৰাখে। হোমিওপ্যাথী পদ্ধতিত জীৰোগত Pulsatilla, অভ্যন্তৰীণ বক্তৃতাৰত Arnica কটা চিঙাত Calindullaৰ দৰে ঔষধ ফলপ্ৰসূদ Allopathy ঔষধ আছে বুলি নেজানো। এই সম্পৰ্কে মই ১৯৫৭ চনত এই সদনত প্ৰশ্নও দিছিলো আৰু প্ৰস্তাৱও দিছিলো পিচে সেইবোৰ আপোনালোকে আনিব নোৱাৰিলে। গতিকে মই মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক অনুৰোধ কৰো তেখেতে যদি নিজ লোকৰ দ্বাৰা পৰ্য্যবেক্ষণ কৰাই তেনেহলে দেখিব যে ভাৰতৰ দৰে দুখীয়া দেশত এই অল্পব্যয়ী পদ্ধতিৰ ব্যৱস্থাৰ দ্বাৰা বহুত অসহায় লোকৰ উপকাৰ হব। অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, আমাৰ সাধাৰণ পানীলগা বা ইনফ্লুয়েঞ্চাৰ চিকিৎসা Homeopathy দ্বাৰা সহজে আৰু কম সময়তে হব পাৰে। Hydropathy chest paekingৰ দ্বাৰা ৪ ঘণ্টামানৰ ভিতৰতে সেইবোৰ আৰোগ্য হব পাৰে। সেই কাৰণে মই চৰকাৰক কওঁ যে এইবোৰ পদ্ধতিৰ প্ৰচলন কৰিবলৈ বিশেষ ভাবে চিন্তা কৰে যেন।

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Mr. Speaker, Sir, I do not want to speak on any Cut Motion, but I want to speak on the proposal for the second Medical College in Gauhati for which there is provision in the budget. I want to speak on the subject because I find that after making provision in the budget the Minister-in-charge is found to be rethinking whether this second Medical College should be in Gauhati or elsewhere. I request the Government that there should not be any vacillation about the location of the second Medical College in Gauhati if there is any necessity at all and this location should not be disturbed now otherthing and more medical colleges according to exigency of situation should be considered.

Regarding starting of T. B. clinics I put a question and from the reply it was given to understand that T.B. Clinics would be started in the District and Subdivisional Headquarters. On getting this information I am a bit surprised. Why this discrimination should be made and why only district and subdivisional headquarters should be selected for starting T. B. Clinics. About the importance of starting more and more T. B. clinics it was brought to the notice of the Government and the Government informed us that they took up the matter with the Government of India and we were given to understand that the Government of India had a proposal of starting about 200 clinics in the country. So, I request the Government that if they cannot accommodate our necessity to open a clinic at Nalbari which is a very congested area, they should move the Government of India to provide one for this place which will then facilitate the entire north bank of Kamrup district for examination of suspected T. B. patient.

Sir, we generally go for allopathy system of treatment. This reminds me of one fact. In a convocation of Ayurvedic College which was attended by the minister, a Doctor of medicine said that the definition of 'Swastha' or health is not absence of Fertenheat temperature according to the allopathic science and he gave some descriptions about it. But according to the Ayurvedic and Homeopathic system 'Ananda', that is, pleasure is the indication of real health and not the absence of temperature. I also agree that absence of temperature cannot be the indication of health but 'Ananda' is the indication of health. About Ayurvedic system of medicine and its development my Friend, Shri Talukdar has given some descriptions, and I have nothing more to add. But I want to add about Humeopathic system of medicine. Though Homeopathic system did not originate in India and though it is taken from western countries yet it shows better result in India. This is perhaps due to the fact that our people here are not edicted to alcohol. Through this system of medicine the treatment become very cheap In this connection. I want to give one instance. Our Friend Shri Tarun Sen Deka undertook treatment in the Medical College at Dibrugarh for loss of his voice, but he was not cured completely there and returned very much disappointed. Then he consulted one Homeopath of repute namely Shri Ramesh Chandra Dutta M.A.,B.L. and took treatment under him as a result of which he regained his voice. When getting treatment at Dibrugarh he had no hope that he would be able to regain his voice and so he was very much disappointed to learn this but ultimately he was cured through Homeopathic medicine. Therefore, Sir, Homeopathic medicine should be much more encouraged in our State also. We hear that Homeopathic Board has been started two years ago and it is still in its early stage now. We find that our Government is not so sincere in starting Homeopathic Board for popularising this system of medicine in our State. It is because perhaps the Medical personnel do not like to encourage this system of medicine in the Assam. In a meeting of the Board held in December 1958 under the Presidentship of our Deputy Speaker Shri Rajendra Nath Barua passed certain important resolutions and sent them to the Government for implementation. Two of the resolutions were most important. One of them suggested that Government should start at least one Homeopathic dispensary in each subdivision for experiment for the time being, and if it would be a success then it should be started in the interior places also.

That is an important resolution, I hope Government would give special attention to start some Homeopathic dispensaries in the State.

The next resolution is, it is resolved further that the State Government do take steps to start a fullfledged Homeopathic Institute at a centrally situated place. Sir, this is necessary. There are many people who have taken Homeopathy practice but without any training, so it meet and proper that some institution should be started in some suitable place in Assam to cater the need of Homeopathic medicine in the State. Bombay and Bihar have gone ahead on this subject. I would request that Government would further see that besides a Homeopathic Training Institute in the State one dispensary for Homeopathy should be started in each Subdivision of the State.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister Medical and Public Health) :

Mr. Speaker, Sir, I am indeed thankful to the hon. Members for their valuable suggestions on the Public Health and Medical Department.

Before attainment of independence the Medical and Public Health measures were to meagre and inadequate but after attainment of independence now is the bounden duty of the National Government to see that the Public Health and medical facilities are made available to a common man in all the parts of the State. With this objective in view, different scheme have been initiated both in the Central and State Sector. So far as our State of Assam is concerned I may say that we have made definite headway on Medical and Public Health activities both in preventive and curative sides in spite of various handicaps and difficulties.

Now, coming to different points raised by hon. Members, I would first touch regarding amalgamation of the Public Health Department with Medical Department. Some Members expressed that the amalgamation has not improved matters I am not prepared to accept that statement that this amalgamation is not working well.

My esteemed Friend Shri Hareswar Goswami took an exception that the budget of these two departments has not been amalgamated. Sir, the question of amalgamation of the budget of the Public Health with that of the Medical was referred to the Auditor General of India and he was of the opinion that there would be no administrative difficulty in the present arrangement. Shri Goswami wants that separate accounts should be shown for the two wings. If the hon. members want we may examine the matter again.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : It is necessary because the personnel of the two have been shown under two heads and if that be so why the amount of administration should be shown separately ?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA : Now, my Friend, Shri Goswami says that this amalgamation has been done only at the top but not at the bottom. Sir, if the hon. Member cares to know he will find that amalgamation has not been done only at the top that it has been done at the Subdivisional and District levels also. This amalgamation, to my knowledge, is working quite well but if any instances of not working satisfactorily is brought to the notice of the Government we will try to mend it.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : About seniority there is confusion. In the amalgamated list Public Health people have become juniors.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: That is under the examination of the Government we will see in what best way this can be done.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Nobody should suffer.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: Then, Sir, there is the question of establishing a Second Medical College in the State and in my reply in the general discussion of the budget I made this position clear. Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury said that there has been no decision on the part of the Government regarding location of the College although some provision is made in the budget. I made it very clear that this provision, which is a token provision, was made according to the indication given by the Planning Commission. He had an indication that we should give a start out of our State resources to be eligible for Central assistance for a Second Medical College in this Third Plan. Regarding location, I have already said in the budget discussion that on this we have to depend on the opinion of an Expert Committee as this is a highly technical matter. The money provided in the budget is for the purpose of starting the preliminaries a necessary for a Medical College, such as, Pre-Clinical Department, etc. Sir, to have Third Medical College in the Third Plan we must start with preliminaries in the Second Plan period.

Then, Sir, regarding the Ayurvedic system of medicine, I must admit that in this respect we have not been able to make much headway at present. The hon. Members know it very well how this Ayurvedic College is running now. It is at Bamunimoidan area at Gauhati where it is housed in temporary buildings, but there is a Laboratory where Ayurvedic medicines are prepared and distributed to different centres. We have a separate ward having ten beds attached to the Gauhati Civil Hospital. The only difficulty with regard to this Ayurvedic College is the non-availability of qualified students. This is perhaps due to the fact that we could not make any prospect for these students. But, as I have already stated the other day in the course of the general discussion on the Budget, we have now made provision for that also and created a separate cadre for them. We have also decided to open wards in the 5 district hospitals which have been provincialised now. Also we have decided to employ Ayurvedic physicians for other works. To begin with, we have created a cadre of 10 Ayurvedic physicians for the present. In this way we hope that we shall be able to provide good prospects for the students coming out from that College. We have been opening every year some subsidised Ayurvedic dispensaries and every year in the future we shall be doing that. The scale of pay of the Ayurvedic dispensary physicians has also been improved. Previously it was less than that of the doctors of Allopathic subsidised dispensaries. But now both these scales have been made the same. In this way we are trying our level best to create some prospects for the students coming out from the College. I may also inform my hon. Friends in this connection that this Ayurvedic College which is not at Gauhati is going to be shifted very soon to Jhalukbari site where magnificent and big buildings are now coming out. We also propose to upgrade the College from the Diploma standard to the Degree standard. So it will be seen that we are trying to develop this College also in all possible ways.

Mrs. JYOTSNA CHANDA (Silchar-West): On a point of clarification, Sir, I want to know from the Minister-in-charge what does it mean when he stated that the Ayurvedic College is a paying concern? If this College is meant to be a paying concern, and only to prepare medicine and sell it and get the money, then what is the use of having it as a College and spending so much money for teaching students?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical and Public Health): Manufactures of medicine is not the only work of the College but as there was some remark regarding wastage of money in that College, I have simply mentioned that point. But that is not the fact, there is no wastage of money there and it is not the fact that manufacturing of medicine is the only work done there. The College has some other definite functions to do.

My Friend, Shri Talukdar, has also put a pertinent question regarding the appointment of the present D. H. S. and that he was a person who was driven out from the College. But Sir, that is not a fact. The present D. H. S. was one of the senior-most Civil Surgeons who has a very good knowledge and experience of the local conditions. We also advertised the post but no suitable candidates were found available. So I myself am of the opinion that the present D. H. S. has got the necessary qualification and experience of local conditions in Assam and that he has been trying his best to discharge his duties efficiently. A point was also raised that the Principal refused to carry out the order of the Government. That is not a fact. Of course there was some misunderstanding but the misunderstanding has been cleared and Dr. Dowka has been appointed as Assistant Professor.

My Friend, Shri Prabhat Choudhury, and some other friends raised a question about Homeopathy and said that there should be Homeopathic dispensaries also here and there. I am glad to inform my hon. Friends that we have constituted a Board on Homeopathy and one Registrar has also been appointed for this purpose. Homopaths are on the way of being registered now. My Friend, Shri Rajendranath Barua, Deputy Speaker, has been taking very keen interest in the subject and with his suggestions and assistance, I think the Board will be able to prepare schemes for the development of Homeopathy here in Assam. As soon as we get the schemes and recommendations of the Board we shall examine them and see what we can do in so far as the homeopathic system of medicine is concerned. My Friend Shri Pegu, said that there was much delay in constructing the dispensary buildings in some places. He also made a good suggestion that instead of waiting for the Public Works Department to prepare plans and estimates for the construction, there should be some better arrangement to speed up the work. Sir, in this respect we shall see what we can do. Of course, there has been some delay in regard to those dispensaries sanctioned by the T. A. D. for some reason or other. But some of the plans and estimates for these dispensaries have been approved and I think construction work will begin very soon and I hope during the next financial year we will be able to complete the construction of the buildings in different localities.

Regarding the Maternity Centres raised by my Friend, Shri Talukdar, I want to say that we have opened a number of Maternity Centres in different areas. But our difficulty in this regard is that we do not get sufficient number of maternity personnel like midwives and nurses. In this connection, I am happy to say that we are getting more response from the Hill Tribal girls than from the girls of the plains. There is a provision for scholarships in the Tribal Areas Department budget but we do not get the sufficient number of candidates to give these scholarships for training in the Maternity and Child-welfare. Of course, now they are gradually coming forward and I hope with the coming up of local girls, we shall be able to open more Maternity Centres in different localities.

I am happy also that our Friend, Dr. Ghanashyam Das, who is himself a medical man has given us a very good suggestions on certain points and I shall certainly see in what best way his suggestions can be implemented.

Mr. Pegu also raised a question about sulphur drugs. I want to inform him that we do not allow unqualified medical men to prescribe or supply anti-biotic drugs. There is a drug restriction. Mr. Pegu also suggested that there should be a research section in the Ayurvedic College. I want to inform the Hon. Members that we have already done that and there is already a research section in the Ayurvedic College. He also stated that Assam is full of resources for medicinal plants. It may be mentioned that we have a good Herbarium near the new site of the Ayurvedic College. I also took the Union Health Minister to that site and he was very much impressed to see the indigenous plants of Assam growing up there and he was also kind enough to agree sanction for a handsome amount for the development of the Herbarium.

Sir, I think I have been able to reply to the main points raised by my Friends. With their co-operation, we shall see how far we can develop our Public Health and Medical Departments. (*A vice*—What about T. B. Clinics). Sir, with regard to the T. B. Clinics, to be extended to the rural areas, as desired by Shri Chaudhury, I may inform the House that we have started such Clinics in every District and Subdivisional Headquarters. We shall see if that is possible, keeping in view our financial resources and the availability of Doctors etc.

Sir, with regard to the Gauhati Civil Hospital, it may be known to the Hon. Members that not long ago all these Hospitals in the plain districts were managed by the Local Boards. After Government took them over, much improvement has been effected. If any one go round these Hospitals they will notice what a tremendous improvement has been effected in all spheres. We have definite scheme to improve them. With regard to the Shillong Civil Hospital, there is little scope for improvement in the existing Hospital and so we have decided to shift to a new and better site. Construction work is now going on in the full swing. We shall try to provide the Shillong Hospital when it is shifted to the proposed new site all the modern equipment and amenities. In this way we are trying to improve all the hospitals further.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery): টাংলাত পানী যোগানৰ কথা কব লাগে।

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Mister Medical): অকল টাংলাতে নহয় অসমৰ বহুত ঠাইত খোৱা পানীৰ অভাব। প্ৰথম পঞ্চ বাৰ্ষিকী পৰিকল্পনাত বিশেষ একো কৰিব পৰা নহল যদিহে Public Health Engineerৰ অভাৱত বহুত চেষ্টাৰ পিচত এই Engineer পোৱা হৈছে আৰু আমি কামতো অলপ আগ বাঢ়িছো। এই সম্বন্ধে আমি কেন্দ্ৰীয় চৰকাৰৰ National water supply scheme মতেও কিছু কাম কৰিছো আৰু Rural water supply scheme মতেও কৰিছো। ইয়াৰ উপৰিও Urban water supply scheme মতে ছিলং গুৱাহাটী আৰু কৰিমগঞ্জৰ কাৰণে ডাঙৰ আচনি লোৱা হৈছে।

Mr. SPEAKER: তেখেতে স্মৰিছে যে তাৰ ভিতৰত টাংলা পৰিছেনে নাই?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister, Medical): Rural water supply scheme কেন্দ্রীয় চৰকাৰৰ অনুমোদন লাগে। তাৰ ভিতৰত টংলা পৰা নাই কিন্তু ওদালগুৰি পৰিছে। টংলাৰ সম্বন্ধেও আমি চিন্তা কৰিছো।

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHRY: If the State Government is not in a position to start such clinic will they request the Government of India?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: If we cannot do, we shall certainly recommend it to the Government of India?

Shri LILY SEN GUPTA: ডিব্ৰুগড়ৰত প্ৰখ্যাত ডাঃ ফনী বোষৰ মৃত্যুৰ পিচত তেওঁৰ বাস ভৱনটো মাতৃ মঙ্গল আৰু শিশু কল্যাণ কেন্দ্ৰ খুলিবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰক দান দিছিল, সেই পুস্তাৰটো ইয়াত আহি পৰি থকাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে লব পৰা নাই এই ধৰণটো এতিয়াও লব পৰা অৱস্থাত আছেনে?

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA: For that a committee was constituted, Sir. And I think it was decided to utilise the House for the purpose of Starting a maternity and child welfare centre. That was one of the wishes of the donor. Apart from that so far as I remember there was a question of starting a kinder garden school also.

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, is the mover of the cut motion going to withdraw it?

(After a pause, the cut motion was withdrawn with the leave of the house)

Mr. SPEAKER: Now, I will put main grants. The question is that a sum of Rs. 1,46,24,700 be granted to the Minister in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960. for the administration of the head "38.—Medical").

(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that a sum of Rs. 1,27,47,900 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st. March, 1960 for the administration of the head "39:— Public Health".

(The question was adopted).

GRANT No. 5

“10.—Forests”

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Forest) On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.1,26,34,400 (Rupees one crore, twenty six lakhs, thirty four thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “10.—Forest”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,26,34,400 (Rupees one crore, twenty six lakhs, thirty four thousand and four hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head “10.—Forests”.

GRANT No. 49

“65.-A.-2.—Capital outlay on Forest”

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Forest) On the recommendation of Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that a sum of Rs.7,05,000 (Rupees seven lakhs and five thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “65.-A.-2.—capital outlay on Forests”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.1,26,34,400 (Rupees one crore twenty six lakhs, thirty four thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “65.-A.-2.—Capital outlay on Forest”.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur): We shall not move any cut motions, Sir. But we shall make some observations.

Shri PRAKITISH CHADRA BARUA (Gauripur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, We are not bringing any cut motion and so I propose to speak a few words about the Forest College. We are glad to learn that we are going to have a Forest College in Assam. Sir, it is an admitted fact that the district of Goalpara is very rich in forest wealth and therefore we feel that the location of the Forest College can be most appropriately be somewhere at Goalpara. Now this district have Two Forest Divisions—Goalpara West and Goalpara East. But we are also glad to learn that in the near future we are going to have another Forest Division after the abolition of the zamindaries. So this district has another ground for which this Forest College should be located in the District of Goalpara at East Kachugaon or at Rangamati.

Now I want to speak a few words about the Forest Villages. Sir, these villages are mostly inhabited by Plain Tribal and the *ex-teagarden* labourers. As these villages are situated in far off interior villages, it has not been possible for the Government officers to help these villagers in the line of education or medical. They are still in darkness. The treatment of the villagers mostly by lower grade Forest officers is not satisfactory. There is no "Begar" system in these villages but privately there is "Begar" system. I know it is illegal but it has been still going on. They need attention of the Government for their improvement. Government servants treatment towards these poor and illiterate villagers is still the same as it was during the British days. So I would request the Government to look into the conditions of these unfortunate forest villagers and save them from this illegal affairs.

Sir, to increase the Forest Revenue, we are felling more trees. I am sure the number of trees which are cut is more than we plant or we expect from Natural plantation. This shows that the department itself is pursuing a policy of ruthless deforestation when it is their duty to protect and preserve the forest. There is a general cry for more land for cultivation and the Forest area is gradually dwindling. It is high time for the Government to think about this problem and to decide as soon as possible. To fell a tree is rather easy but to grow and rear a tree is difficult. It is to be decided now whether we want more forests or more cultivable lands. These Professional Grazing Reserves and Village Grazing Reserves are invaded by land hungry people and there are many squatters who squat on the reserve lands. These Professional Grazing Reserves are very important public property and they need be protected by the Government in as much as they serve as buffer state to the forest areas. It protects the main reserve from the depredations of the cattle of the neighbouring villagers. So Professional Grazing Reserves are very important and I request Government to look after the preservation of these Professional Grazing Reserves. As I have stated above it is easy to cut a tree but it is difficult to grow or rear a tree. So when we open the coupes for timber we should always think that the number should be very limited. Otherwise we ourselves help deforestation which these vaner muhut sal can not compensate. It is also the duty of the Government to impress upon the forest villagers the real utility of preserving these forests for their good and good of whole State.

Now I would like to speak a few words about preservation of wild life. I know some people may call it as "ভেতৰ নুখো বাৰ নাৰ" Still I say Sir, that the Shikaris in their true sense are the best man to preserve and protect the wild life. Because they have great interest in the wild animals. With the disappearance of the jungle, the animals are also disappearing. Sir, take for instance Goral, the wild goat. There is no such place where we can preserve them. Unfortunately these animals live in hills and those hills are under Autonomous districts and we have no control over them. I suggest to Government to take up this matter with the authorities of the Autonomous districts. During only a months' observation I find that here in Barabazar every day we can have deer meat and within one month I counted 2 Gorals, 5 Sambers and 23 Barking deer and few procupines and wild pigs were shot and sold in open market. If in the capital town of Assam such a large number of wild lives have been shot and sold, then I do not know what is happening in the remote corners of the forests of Assam. The same thing may be said about other games such as Barashing, i. e., swamp deer, Samber, Hog deer, Barking deer and Mouse deer. Among the birds, pink headed ducks have become extinct.

Mallards, Red crested pochards and even the common whistling teals are becoming rare these days. Although some haphazard propaganda are being made, we have not been successful in giving adequate publicity about this very important wild life of our country. Only the other day a Bill has been introduced by the West Bengal Government for preservation and protection of wild life. I request our Government too to introduce a similar Bill in Assam. In Bhutan also they have law according to which any man killing these animals are sentenced to 6 months jail and Rs. 600 fine. I, however, am not suggesting that such a law should be made here. What I suggest to Government is that they should make it a point to give wide publicity about this valuable preserves in our jungles and to rouse public opinion in favour of this wild life.

Bhutan have declared the whole State to be reserved. Any man catching even fish is sentenced to six months' imprisonment and a fine of Rs.600. Though we do not want to make a rule like this in our State, we should at least make good provision for protection of wild life (including Forest). We have a Wild Life Board, but it very rarely sits. I also suggest to Government to mobilise public opinion, through wide campaign by the Publicity Department, for preservation of our wild life. I also suggest to Government to have a Game Warden to look after the preservation of wild life. He should be an experienced man who has some knowledge about wild life and is a lover of wild life and forests.

Then, Sir, I would like to mention one thing in this connection. Recently we have become too liberal in granting gun licences to the lower rank officers of forest. During the British regime when our State was full of thick jungle, and wild animals even then gun licences were not given so liberally to these people. I suggest that gun licences should not be given to any officer below the rank of D. F. O. Then, Sir, guns which are given for the protection of cultivation are used more for poaching than protection of crops. I suggest that the barrels of such guns should be cut. If this is done, these guns cannot be used for poaching.

Lastly, Sir, I shall speak a few words about our State Zoo. It is good that we have started a Zoo, but I have seen that animals are kept in small cages. Every time I have visited the zoo I have found the animals are not very happy. Unfortunately, we have not got any tiger in our zoo. When tigers are so famous in the jungles of Assam, it looks rather odd that we do not have any tiger. I was told that a tiger was caught near Mazbat by one Mr. Rahman. We can have that for our zoo.

Then, Sir, I would suggest to Government to appoint an Advisory Committee for our zoo. In all other zoos, I understand, there are such Committees of Public men interested in wild life. But here the Department is running the whole thing without the help of the Public. I hope Government will consider the desirability of appointing such a committee for our Zoo also for the benefit of the animals which are kept in the zoo as prisoner in a small cell.

Then, Sir, the sheds in the zoo are made of thatch and the temporary enclosures are made of bamboo. In case of fire, it will be difficult to save any animal. We should change the thatch roofing and provide iron-rod enclosures for the animal.

With these few words, I resume my seat. Thank you Sir.

Shri RADHA KISHAN KHEMKA (Tinsukia) : माननीय अभ्यक्ष महोदय ! वन विभाग के मंत्री महोदय ने Rs.1,26,34,400 रुपये की जो मांग सदन में पेश की है मैं उसका हार्दिक समर्थन करता हूँ और साथ ही अपने जिले में बसे हुए Forest Villages, की प्रति सरकार का ध्यान आकर्षित करना चाहता हूँ। हमारे जिले में जो Forest Villages हैं उनकी बड़ी-बड़ी समस्याएँ हैं। सन् 1950 का भूमिकंप तथा वाढ़ के द्वारा पीड़ित बहुत से लोग इन गावों में बसाये गये थे। किन्तु इन गांवों के रहनेवाले लोगोंको सरकार की और से जो सुयोग-सुविधा और सहायता जितनी चाहिये की, वे उन्हें मिली नहीं है। आज भी इन गावों में रास्ते नहीं हैं। स्कूल और अस्पताल की सुविधा वहाँ नहीं है इस स्थिति में उन गांवों की स्थिति देखकर हमें बड़ा दुःख होता है। मेरे कहने का मतलब यह है कि हमारे राष्ट्र के विकास के लिये जो जो योजनाएँ बनी हैं उनसे कोई लाभ इन गांवों के रहनेवालों को नहीं पहुँचा है। विकास की इन योजनाओं की सुविधा से Forest Villages के रहनेवाले लोगोंको वंचित किया जा रहा है। सरकार से मेरा अनुरोध है कि Forest Villages में बसे हुए लोगों को भी विकास की ये सुविधाएँ प्रदान करें। इन लोगोंकी समस्याओंका समाधान करें। केवल हमारे जिले में ही नहीं बल्कि सारे आसाम के अन्य अन्य जिलों में भी बहुत से Forest Villages हैं और काफी तादादमें वहाँ लोग रहते हैं। इस गांवों में रहने वालों को भी विकास की योजनाओं की सुविधाएँ प्रदान करें। इसलिये वन विभाग के मंत्री महोदय की दृष्टि आकर्षित करता हूँ। और आशा करता हूँ कि फोरेस्ट गाव में बसे हुए भूमिकंप और वाढ़ पीड़ित लोगों की समस्याओं का समाधान करेंगे। इतना ही कहकर मैं अपना वक्तव्य समाप्त करता हूँ।

***Shri MATHIAS TUDU (Gossaigaon):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, about the condition of forest villagers, it has been referred to by Mr. Barua. I also have the same feeling that Government should try to improve the condition of the forest villagers. I myself know the condition of the forest villagers, particularly of the Kachugaon reserved forest in the Goalpara West Division.

Government seem to be very keen about protection of wild life and improvement of forests. This is very good, but along with it the condition of the forest villagers should also be improved. I think I need not describe the economic plight of these people who live in the forest villages, as it is known to all of us. They are given land, perhaps 5, 10 or 15 bighas per family and they have to grow crops, paddy, jute, etc. But the crops they grow is very meagre and they cannot make both ends meet with the result that they are facing great difficulties to supplement income of their families. Now Sir, due to economic necessity these people have to take recourse to taking loans from mahajans. Now the rate of interest that these mahajans charge is very high and in most cases these poor people are not in a position to repay the loan because of the high rate of interest. Thus their economic condition is going from bad to worse. At the same time these mahajans exploit the people like anything. In the month of February last, I attended a meeting at Kochugaon there I was informed that about 80 per cent of the people I mean the forest villagers are in debt. So, if we really want to ameliorate the condition of these forest villagers then there should be some sort of rules or if necessary even, legislative measures to regulate the system of giving of taking loan so that the people can get loan at a lower rate of interest. As I have said Sir, because these poor people have to

maintain their families and because the produce they get from their cultivation is poor, their economic condition is going from bad to worse. So, I would urge upon the Government to see how these people can be helped.

Then again, Sir, I think these poor backward people have the right to be protected from exploitation. To achieve that end, as I have already said, some measures should be envolved so that the rate of interest for the loan which these people are forced to take to supplement their income is controlled and they can get such loans on easy terms. Sir it is not enough to make these people free from debt—that will not solve the problem for improving the economic condition of these people. Yet that is the first step towards that end. Secondly, these people should be made education conscious and they should be enlightened. For that purpose schools should be established in the Kokrajhar forest reserve areas. As hon. Members know Sir, there are very few schools in these areas and the existing schools are also not run properly because of paucity of funds. I therefore, request Government to consider the question of educating these backward people who live in the forest villages. New schools should be established and the existing schools should be repaired. Particularly I wish that the new High School which is going to be opened at Kokrajhar should be given sufficient aid because it is the only High School in the forest reserve areas. If this High School is sufficiently helped so that it is well furnished, then the forest villagers will be benefited. Not only the forest villagers but also the backward tribal people of the locality will be benefited.

With these words Sir, I resume by seat.

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister, Forest): Mr. Speaker Sir, the three hon. Members who took part offered valuable suggestions and I am thankful to all of them. Shri Prakritish Barua raised the question of a Forest College. I am not aware of it. There is a proposal to start a Forest Research Station in Assam and as that Research Station will serve the purpose of Assam, Orissa, West Bengal and Bihar, the Government of India suggested Gauhati to be the site for communication facilities and we agreed to it. But the Government of India deferred to the Third Five Year Plan. The other suggestion of Shri Barua that all the forest villagers should be grouped in one place, is not possible. There are at present 616 villages and they are occupying about 2,29,094 bighas of land scattered all over Assam. They cannot be segregated in one place. These forest villagers are put there for their own benefit and for the benefit of the Department. They do certain works for the Department. Now, the forests are scattered all over Assam so also the villages are scattered all over Assam. So it is not possible to put all these people in one place.

About beggary system I say that there is no such system in our State. But there is a system which may be called exchanged labour. Under this system the villages render service for 5 days in a year to the Forest Department for which they are paid in kind. That is not beggary system. At present these people get land 10 bighas each at six annas revenue per bigha plus forest produce free. If there is somebody who does not like it he is free to make his own selection. Then my Friend Shri Barua said that the Forest Department is deforesting the forests. How he arrived at that conclusion I cannot understand. Trees are born to be felled when mature.

The Forest Department do it according to a plan. According to this plan mature trees are only felled but side by side there is also new plantation. So at the same time when trees are felled there is also planting of new trees. That is not deforestation. This deforestation is done rather by encroachers into reserves, particularly in Sibsagar. Some landless people are collected together, sometimes in the shape of a co-operative society, these people enter the reserve forests cut down trees for cultivation. That is deforestation which we want to prevent.

About wild life my Friend Mr. Barua has given some valuable suggestions. He is a member of the Wild Life Board. We accept his suggestions. It is correct that several species of wild life have already become extinct and many others are in danger of being extinct. So, during the last meeting of the Board it was decided to open several more wild life sanctuaries in Assam. We are giving effect to this. The reasons he showed in support of his contention is correct.

About the zoo in our State Mr. Barua made some pertinent remarks. In this respect we are facing some difficulties. In other places the zoos came to its full development after about 50 to 100 years. But our zoo is still in its infant stage. In other places some big Rajas and Zamindars made gift of houses for animals and thus the zoos developed. But we are to develop our zoo from our own resources. To develop a zoo houses are first constructed and then animals are brought. But in our case the animals were brought first and then houses are to be constructed. So, we are facing some difficulties. My Friend Mr. Barua says that the animals have been kept in thatched houses, which is not safe. He is right. We are also facing the difficulty with regard to this. In the months of Magh, Fagun and chait the grass become dry and so the dry grass and thatch may catch fire any moment. The animals are in great danger of being burnt alive. So we have kept the grass cleaned all around those houses. Watchmen are there to keep watch and to remove the dry grass and leaves. Our rich people should come forward with donation so that we may at least replace the thatched houses with C. I. Sheet houses.

With regard to forest villagers Mr. Tudu raised a point. With regard to land the forest villagers are in a better position than our other peasants, because the forest villagers are provided with 10 bighas of land at 6 annas of revenue. Now the main difficulty is that by birth their families are expanding. For the forest villagers we already provided various amenities. Roads, well, dispensaries and schools have been provided at various places. But there are some difficulties to provide amenities to small villages which lie scattered and detached inside forest reserves. Good roads are not possible there. There are some villages which lie contiguous to other villages and for them we have made arrangements for giving these facilities. We are also considering to include those villages within the Panchayat when the new Panchayat Bill becomes an Act.

About exploitation of the forest villagers by Mahajans. This exploitation by such people is everywhere in Assam. Shri Tudu suggested that some legislation should be made for regulation of interest. In this respect the Money Lenders' Act is there. It fixes the maximum interest. It is said that those people cannot come to the law court. That is the difficulty. They are not conscious of their rights. There should be some organisation to see that those people are not exploited. I have myself seen forest

villages in Kachugaoan area mentioned by my Friend Mr. Tudu. The forest villagers in Kachugaon area are a backward state and so they are exploited by the Mahajans. If my Friend takes some interest in the matter and forms an organisation to protect these people from the clutches of the Mahajans then these people may be immensely benefitted.

These are the points raised in the discussion.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY : অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, হিমালয়ৰ কিনাৰে কিনাৰে গোটেই দৰং জিলাত বনৰীয়া হাতীয়ে বহু খেতিয়কৰ খেতি নষ্ট কৰিছে, যিবু ভাঙিছে আৰু বহু খেতিয়কৰ প্ৰাণ হানি কৰিছে। আশাকৰো চৰকাৰে এই বিষয়ে দৃষ্টি দিব।

Shri HARESWAR DAS : এই অভিযোগ আমি পাইছো। এতিয়া কথা হৈছে এই হাতী বিলাক ভোটান এৰিয়াত থাকে আৰু ডাঙৰ হলে দলপাতি নামি আহে আৰু আমি যি পাবো বৰো। কাৰেই ভোটানৰ পৰা অহা বন্ধ কৰাৰ উপায় নাই।

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs. 1,26,34,400 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head.

(The question was adopted).

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs. 7,05,000 be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "65—A—2—Capital Outlay on Forests."

(The question was adopted).

GRANT No. 29

"50.—Civil Works"

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.)] : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 6,46,23,500 (Rupees six crores, forty-six lakhs, twenty-three thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works".

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 6,46,23,500 (Rupees six crores, forty-six lakhs, twenty-three thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head "50.—Civil Works".

GRANT No. 30

“Tools and Plants and Establishment”

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.)]: On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 92,12,000 (Rupees ninety-two lakhs and twelve thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head “Tools, Plants and Establishment”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 92,12,000 (Rupees ninety-two lakhs and twelve thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head “Tools, Plants and Establishment”.

GRANT No. 55

“81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account”

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister-in-charge of Public Works Department (R. & B.)]: On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 3,79,13,300 (Rupees three crores, seventy-nine lakhs, thirteen thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head “81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 3,79,13,300 (Rupees three crores, seventy-nine lakhs, thirteen thousand and three hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head “81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account”.

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBARUAH: Sir, I beg to move that the provision of Rs. 6,46,23,500 under Grant No. 29, Major head “50—Civil Works”, at page 394 of the budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,23,500, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(Over estimation in the budget and huge surrender at the close of the financial year).

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 6,46,23,500 under Grant No. 29, Major head “50—Civil Works”, at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, i. e., the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,23,500, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the Government for failure to give sufficient work loads to Divisional Executive Engineers, Subdivisional Officers and other Officers and making them sit idle).

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 6,46,23,500, under Grant No. 29, Major head "50.—Civil Works", at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,23,500, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(1. To criticise for failure of final alignment of Tihu-Haribhanga road.

2. To criticise for non-allotment of money to complete the incomplete portion of road from Tihu to Makhibaha on the Salmara-Tihu Public Works Department Road.

3. To criticise about the collapse of Narihapa bridge.

4. To criticise for not taking any action regarding the gravelling case of Jalah on the Patacharkuchi Anchali Public Works Department Road).

Shri BIRENDRA KUMAR DAS: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 6,46,23,500 under Grant No. 29, Major head "50.—Civil Works", at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,23,500, do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To criticise the demand).

Shri MATHIAS TUDU: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 6,46,23,500 under Grant No. 29, Major head "50.—Civil Works", at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,23,500, do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To raise a general discussion).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 6,46,23,500 under Grant No. 29, Major head "50.—Civil Works", at page 394 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 6,46,23,500, do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To raise a general discussion).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 92,12,000 under Grant No. 30, Major head "Tools and Plant and Establishment", at page 398 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 92,12,000, do stand reduced by Re. 1.

(To raise a general discussion).

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 3,79,13,300 under Grant No. 55, Major head "81.—Capital Accounts of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account", at page 512 of the Budget, be reduced by Rs. 100, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 3,79,13,300, do stand reduced by Rs. 100.

(To criticise the Government for failure to provide—

(1) the building of the Court at Nalbari, and

(2) the Judicial lock-up for under-trial).

Shri HIRALAL PATWARI: Sir, I beg to move that the total provision of Rs. 3,79,13,300 under Grant No. 55, Major head "81.—Capital Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account", at page 512 of the Budget, be reduced by Re. 1, *i. e.*, the amount of the whole grant of Rs. 3,79,13,300, do stand reduced by Re 1.

(To raise a general discussion).

Mr. SPEAKER: We have exactly 2 hours and 15 minutes. I think, the Minister may take about half an hour to reply?

Shri DE+ESWAR SARMA: Yes, Sir, half an hour will do.

Mr. SPEAKER: If the demands cannot be finished before 4 P. M. I shall guillotine them at 4 P. M.

Shri PRABHAT NARAYAN CHOUDHURY (Nalbari-East): Sir, in moving my Cut Motion, I want to point out that there are many Divisions and Subdivisions of Roads and Buildings of Public Works Department where we have seen officers in numbers although not sufficient work are seen being done by them but according to the Minister the department is short of officers.

The Minister the other day said that he had no business to call meeting of the Road Communication Board as there is no fund from which the Board can direct to take up some roads and that the money provided in the 2nd Five Year Plan has already been spent and there is nothing left. If that is so what is the justification of maintaining such a huge staff in the Divisional and Subdivisional headquarters and mofussil areas. I cannot understand why some money cannot be made available for expenditures on roads in spite of the fact that there are officers who are being given salaries without any work. It is the procedure, when sufficient workload does not justify the number of officers, they should not be retained and the money diverted to the work and staff should be there sufficient for the work. The Minister himself admitted that in most of the Divisions the officers are sitting idle for want of work. What is the use of maintaining such a huge staff and keep them idle? The Minister has not given any indication as to how many roads have been improved during the last two years. We have experience of the last year and also we are just entering into the next financial year but what we have seen? What a catastrophic condition of roads. Roads were taken up but at random, perhaps; at the time of the last election and some of these roads are incomplete, some of these have become worst than what they were before they were either taken from Local Boards or they were village roads, where the people cannot move, but now it appears that Public Works Department have undertaken patch works and put boulders here and there and they have demolished the existing bridges on the roads to reconstruct them, with the result not to speak of vehicle traffic but pedestrian traffic is stopped. If such a state of affairs continues for want of funds, roads are not repaired

bridges are not rebuilt, etc., the plight of the people using those roads will have no end of miseries and trouble. The main purpose of constructing roads is to help peasants, agriculturists and traders to supply their produce to market and to bring their own needs. The roads help in quick transport of agricultural produce and other things for prompt disposal at and the best possible price. They help both the consumers and producers equally. Unfortunately, the roads in existence have not been made useful for the objective for which they were taken up by Public Works Department.

Then, Sir, we find that money for construction of buildings for different public utility purposes have been sanctioned but actual construction work has not started. Now, the reasons for delay in starting works of these buildings are, firstly, there is no materials; secondly, that site for the building is not available; thirdly there is contention as to the suitability of site, etc

Beside I know of the cases when budget provisions were made but the same were communicated to the districts or subdivisions after a lapse of 8 to 9 months. If for intimating provisions for certain schemes may take a good deal of time, how can we expect that the works will be undertaken in time?

Again, we find that there is dilatory method in the scrutiny stage. I am citing one instance. About the Nalbari Lock-up. Plans and estimates were sent to headquarters Office at Shillong but Government failed to provide money for it because it took a long time in according sanction for finalising plans and estimates. I know of a case for which money was provided.

I know of a case involving capital outlay of 81 thousand which took more than two years time to finalise. Also I pointed out the other day about the necessity of a court building at Nalbari. But the Minister replied in a different way. My question was whether there was any congestion in the Magistrate's court due to the location of two offices, but unfortunately the reply of the Minister was not to my point. The Hon. Speaker was pleased to request the Minister-in-charge to reply to the point raised by me. The Minister-in-charge said that the Government provided money for the Magistrate's quarter. Do I understand that the magistrate's quarter is more important than the court building itself? People cannot move in the court building due to congestion. I do not understand why the Government feel shy to provide sufficient money for the construction of the court building. I hope and believe, the Government will consider this important matter very seriously, because the decency and dignity of the court cannot be maintained if this institution is not sufficiently accommodated. I request the Minister in charge to visit this court personally and see how this court has been functioning. I hope also that the Government will consider the question of completing the roads which were already undertaken for construction before taking new roads. I do not want the Government to take new roads without completing the existing one. I must implore on the Government that when we construct some roads, these roads must be completed. Again we have seen that there is some misnomer in respect of Jajiarbari Alia Road and Kamalpur-Marwah Road. I do not know what justice is there for the Government to name these roads as Jagiabarbari Alia Road and Marwah Kamalpur road when these roads do not touch any villages whatsoever to name as such. I hope the Government will take steps to link this road with some important places. Similarly three miles of the Kamalpur-Marwah road has not been done for the last 5/6 years and

I think the people have right to demand this road to be completed by the Government soon. I suggest that these roads should at least be so constructed as to touch some important places so that these may be of use to the general public. For this purpose, I hope the Government will make necessary budget provision to take appropriate action in time, otherwise people will go on blaming this department and that department. I know of one case when the Public Works Department accuses the acquisition section of the revenue department and the revenue department on their part accuses the Public Works Department. There was a proposal for the construction of a sub-treasury staff quarter. When I enquired in the Public Works Department, they said that it was lying in the acquisition department, and when I went to the acquisition section of the land revenue department, they showed me the correspondence that the approval was not given for about six months. And after this long six months approval went to them. This only reveals that money has been allotted to the acquisition section, so naturally one section accuses the other section. This should not be the state of affairs and with these words I want to commend for the acceptance of the house my cut motion.

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Goswami.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Mr. Speaker Sir, in support of the cut motion moved by my friend from this side of the House, I would like to add a few words what my Friend, Mr. Chaudhury just said. Sir, budget of the P.W.D. has been increasing year after year and today we have found that it is almost double than what it was five years back. This is bound to be due to the increasing activities within the State and due to the necessity of opening of roads and construction of buildings. But what matters most is whether we are in a position to complete the targets that have been fixed and if not what are the reasons for not being able to do so. We know that work is not being done immediately. Whether it is a case of construction of roads or buildings we have seen that there is a paucity of Engineers, Overseers and Mohurris, etc., and I would like to know from the Minister in-charge what has been done to overcome the short supply of technical personnel for implementing the works that we decide to undertake. Sir, I am not blaming the department for taking up one building instead of another because when I come through the main budget I find most of these buildings belong to different departments, and it is their choice and not the choice of place. It is the department commend that should decide which of the buildings should be taken up first and where.

Adjournment

The Assembly was then adjourned for lunch till 2 P.M.

After Lunch

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I was speaking about the increasing amount that we are spending on the Public Works Department. It is also a fact that in 1957-58 we could not do the work for which money was allotted and so we had to surrender money to the tune of 2 crores of rupees. In this year also I have learnt that we shall have to surrender a big amount for want of personnel, materials and other things. Therefore, Sir, this has become a very important matter that if we go on increasing our budget we must increase our technical know, materials and other connected things, other wise it will not be worthwhile to allot such a huge amount of money for the Public Works Department and thereby make other Departments suffer for want of sufficient money for carrying out other urgent works.

So far as buildings are concerned they are mostly requisitioned or they are done at the request of other Departments. It is not my concern whether some buildings should be taken first and some later. My point is that in the execution of work we have to say a lot. For instance, the Gauhati District Court building. I do not know who approved the plan. There the building is now cracking. The W. C. water closets were placed in such a way that it is stinking with hellish smell all the time and one cannot sit in the court when such smell envelop the building. The (acouties) of the building is hopelessly bad and if any one speaks even with a low voice the whole thing resounds and so it is very difficult to carry on with the normal business of the court. Let us take the instance of the High Court building. It is cracking in two or three rooms. The floor has cracked already. The roof is also licking in two or three places. Then let us take the instance of the Advocate General's room. It was long decided to have a small room as W. C. The workers go there and after remaining for a while they come back without any progress of work whatsoever

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH: Why ?

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: I want to know the reason from him, Sir.

Mr. SPEAKER: That is the purpose of the debate.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Similarly I can give instances of many other buildings constructed by the Public Works Department where the work has been executed so badly. I do not know where the defects lie. It may be in the workmanship or in the plan or in the supervisory. It is not only the delay in the execution of work but the very workmanship is also not good about which I raise objection. Therefore we have to look into the matter thoroughly.

In giving contract last year we were told that there were three classes of contractors and they are class 1, class 2 and class 3 and they were to be registered accordingly. Now we find that if a man is registered as class 3 contractor and if he submits tender for class 2 work then he is not given that work. Similar is the case with other classes of contractors. This type of registration of contractors is nothing but to deprive them of their dues. We hear that in giving contract work people speak of favouratism also. Some people are given more contracts which they actually do not deserve and sometimes contracts are given from Shillong and not at the locality where the work is going to be done.

I have also come to know that there is one corporation called Bridge and Building Corporation and in this corporation there is one person called some Mazumdar who is a manager. There is a suspicion that this corporation gets work more than they deserve because the wife of one of the big bosses of the Public Works Department holds 25 per cent shares in this corporation.

Mr. SPEAKER: I am sorry to interrupt. I made it clear previously that any allegation of this nature should be given to me by writing so that I can pass it on the Minister concerned for making necessary enquiry.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI: Sir, I am doing this with the permission of the Minister.

Secondly, Sir, that corporation has been given the work of constructing the civil hospital at Guahati. When this corporation was executing the work of Maligaon overbridge some defects were pointed out in this bridge by the then Executive Engineer Mr. Gohain and at once that Executive Engineer was transferred from there to another division and another Executive Engineer was brought there. Now this Executive Engineer has taken charge of the new civil hospital buildings, so that if there is any defect that would not be pointed out. These things are openly said at Gauhati. As a representative of the people it is my duty to bring this to the notice of the Minister. I refer this matter to the Minister to consider whether these things are true or not and if so whether we can allay the suspicion of the people. I have seen a road. I do not know how the policy regarding surfacing is decided. I do not know if you have gone from Barjhar to Loharghat. From Gauhati to Barjhar is pitch road then upto Tinali it is metalled road then two miles upto is pitched road. In the portions which are not surfaced you find big boulders, over which it is difficult to drive a car. What I say that from Barjhar upto Loharghat, which is such an important road should be made pitch all through and not only two miles in between. Then Sir, my submission is this that we are told that during the Second Five Year Plan we cannot take any more road because all money for this Plan for roads have been spent. If we cannot make roads, we can at least improve this road from our State Government's money. We have to improve the roads, and it is not now a question of making a road. There are many roads which are not properly maintained for want of repairs. Even in some portions the Trunk Road from Gauhati to Digboi want repair badly, particularly some portions near Jorhat and some portions near Dibrugarh. Unless, immediate repair work is taken up, I am afraid, it will bring difficulty and trouble not only to public but to Government as well.

Then, Sir, regarding the ferry service at Gauhati running from Gauhati to North Gauhati and the ferry service at Goalpara running from Pancharatna to Jogighopa, although the Government assured this House that new steamers will be provided for these two main ferries. (Shri Harinarayan Barua—What about Kokilamuchi Neamati Ferry service?) I am thankful to my friend for reminding me about this important ferry service also, which is connecting Jorhat with Majuli and North-Lakhimpur. All these ferry services are over the Brahmaputra. During rainy season, the river becomes so big and furious that unless in these ghats good ferries are provided there is fear of losing human life and property. Besides, the ferries in those ghats remain under repair very often. We have been told in this House that Government would take steps for requisitioning new ferries but now it is told that it is difficult to obtain or to import them. I don't know, why our Government cannot import them while I. G. N., R. S. N. or other steamer companies can import them.

Lastly, so far as roads are concerned it is necessary that we not only provide money for roads, but we should see that money spent is received by people of our State and that it help in giving avocations, and employments to our people. It is seen that big contracts are generally given to people outside the State, this does not help our people. In this House we discussed about this and it was agreed that the Sramik Bahini would be given all facilities to take up Public Works Department contracts. I would like to know what has happened to this? If Sramik Bahinies have been given work, to what extent they have been given work and how far they have been able to succeed?

Now, in Public Works Department we spend Rs. 7 to Rs. 8 crores and it is necessary that this money should be spent for the benefit of the people of our State. It should go not only to give openings, employment to our people but it should help in raising the standard of living and purchasing capacity of our people in the State. Therefore, in future, the Government should give preference in contracts and other matters to our people.

With these words, I support the Cut Motions move by my friends.

Shri MAHADEB DAS [Barpeta (Reserved for Scheduled Castes)]: মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় আমাৰ গৰকণ্ঠানী বিভাগৰ মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে P.W.D. শিতানৰ যিটো টকা মঞ্জুৰী পোৱাৰ কাৰণে এই সদনত উত্থাপিত কৰিছে সেইটো মই পোন প্ৰথমে সমৰ্থন জনাইছো। এই সদনত P.W.D. বিভাগৰ কামৰাজৰ বিষয় কিছুমানে নিন্দাবাদ কৰি সমালোচনা কৰিছে আৰু কিছুমানে তেওঁসকলৰ অভিকৰ্টি মতে কিছুমানে যুক্তি ডাঙি ধৰিছে। মই কিন্তু নিজে নিন্দাবাদ নকৰি তেওঁৰ আগত কিছু যুক্তি ডাঙি ধৰিম আৰু কবো তেখেতে মোৰ যুক্তিৰ প্ৰতি কিছু কৃপা দৃষ্টিৰে চাব। আজি আমাৰ P.W.D. বিভাগে কাম নকৰা বুলি কলে ভুল কৰা হয়। মোৰ বোধেৰে বহুত কাম কৰিছে আৰু বহু কাম কৰিবলৈ থকা কথা সকলোৱে জানে।

সদনস্থ সভ্যসকল আপোনাৰ কলম অবিদিত নহয় যে অসমত থকা আটাইকেইখন মহকুমাতকৈ বৰপেটা মহকুমাৰ প্ৰায় বেছিভাগ ঠাইয়ে দ আৰু তাৰ বাস্তা পদূলিবোৰ প্ৰায়ে বেয়া বুলি কলেই ভুল কোৱা নহব। আজি আমাৰ বিশেষ বাস্তাটো হল গোহাটীৰ লগত যোগাযোগ থকা। বহু বছৰৰ পৰা এই বাস্তাৰ কাম হৈ থকা স্বত্বেও এই বাস্তাৰ কাম ওৰ নপৰিল যদিও কথমপি মটৰেৰে বৰপেটাৰ পৰা গোহাটীলৈ যোৱা অহা কৰে সি নিৰাপদ নহয়। প্ৰায়ে মাজে সময়ে বাস্তাত বাঢ়ৰ বিপদ আপদ হৈ থকা দেখিবলৈ পাও তাৰ কাৰণ বাস্তাটো বাঢ়ৰ উপযোগী নহয় বৰ ঠেক। কি কৰিব উপায় নাই সেই বাস্তাবে অহা যোৱা নকৰিলে নহয় বিশেষকৈ আজি এক বছৰৰ পৰা বেল লাইনৰ বেমেজালী হোৱাত আৰু ১০০ মাইলৰ তলত সেই গাৰী খনৰ টিকত আদি অহা যোৱা কৰা মানুহক নিদিয়াত প্ৰায় মহকুমাৰ মানুহে বেল লাইনেৰে অহা যোৱা বাদ দি দুখ কষ্ট কৰি হলেও মটৰ গাৰীৰে অহাযোৱা কৰে দুখৰ কথা মই ব্যক্ত কৰিব নেযাও যি সকলে এবাৰ এই বাঢ়েৰে অহা যোৱা কৰিছে সি নিশ্চয় বুজ পাইছে। আজি বৰ সৌভাগ্যৰ কথা সিদিনাখন আমাৰ Speaker ডাক্তৰীয়াই বৰপেটাৰ দৌল চোৱাৰ কাৰণে গৈছিল তেওঁ যি বাস্তাবে গৈছিল সেই বাস্তাৰ কপ দেখি সচাকৈ তেওঁ দুখ পাইছিল আৰু কথা প্ৰসঙ্গত কৈছিল যে এই বাস্তাটো অতি সোনকালে গোহাটীৰ পৰা ভাল কৰা দৰকাৰ নহলে ইয়াৰ মানহে সদায় দুখ কষ্ট ভুগিব লাগিব আজি তেখেত এই সদনত উপস্থিত আছে গতিকে P.W.D. মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ক টানী অনুৰোধ জনাওঁ যাতে দয়া কৰি এই বছৰৰ ভিতৰতে এই বাস্তাটোৰ বাকী থকা কাম শেষ কৰি বাইজৰ মঙ্গল সাধনা কৰে।

আমাৰ প্ৰত্যেক মহকুমাত কামবোৰ পৰিচালনা কৰাৰ বাবে বিভিন্ন বিভাগৰ একোখন Advisory Committee আছে দুখৰ কথা বাইজৰ মুখ্য কামৰ ভিতৰত এই P.W.D. বিভাগ তাত Advisory Committee নথকাত বহু কামৰ বেমেজালী বাইজৰ ফালৰ পৰা আমি গুলিবলৈ পাওঁ। গতিকে মহোদয়ৰ ওচৰত প্ৰাৰ্থনা যাতে প্ৰত্যেক মহকুমাৰে একোজন Executive Engineer ৰ অধীনত থকা কামবোৰ একোখন Advisory Committee তৈয়াৰ কৰি কাম

বাৰ বিতৰণ কৰে যাতে ঠিকদাৰ সকলে বিভাগীয় কৰ্মচাৰীৰ ওপৰত দোষাৰোপ দিব নোৱাৰে আৰু কৰ্মচাৰী সকলেও ঠিকদাৰ সকলক নিজৰ ইচ্ছামতে বেমেজালী লগাই বেয়া কৰিব নোৱাৰে এয়ে মোৰ এই সদনৰ জৰীয়তে অনুৰোধ।

আজি আমি কিছুমান বেহাবেপাৰৰ উৎপন্ন হোৱা পিচ পৰা খেতিয়কৰ গাওঁৰ পিনে যদি লক্ষ্য কৰো তেওঁসকলৰ হাড়ভাৰা দুখকৰি উপাৰ্জন কৰা খেতিৰ বস্তুবোৰ যানবাহন আৰু বাস্তাৰ সা স্ত্ৰবিধা নথকাত কম মূল্যতে বিক্ৰি কৰি দেখিবলৈ পাই। তাৰ পৰা জন সাধৰনৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা ক্ৰমান্বয়ে পিচৰ পিনে আহিছে গতিকে বিভাগীয় কৰ্মচাৰীৰ তদন্ত ক্ৰমে যি বোৰ এলাকাত এনে ধৰনৰ কথা চলি আহিছে তাক অতি সোনকালে দূৰ কৰিব লাগে যিহেতু এই কৃষক মানুহে আমাৰ বাইজৰ মেৰুদণ্ড স্বৰূপ। বিশেষকৈ মই কব খোজো মোৰ মহকুমাৰ ভিতৰত থকা এনে বহু ঠাই আছে তাক যেন অতি সোনকালে পৰিদৰ্শন কৰে।

আজি প্ৰায় ৩১৪ বছৰৰ পৰা কিছুমান ঠাইত আধৰুৱা বাস্তা বহু পৰি আছে গৰণ মেণ্টক কলে কয় যে টকা নাই মই বুজিব পৰা নাই পুৰা বাস্তাৰ কাম শেষ নকৰাকৈ কেনেকৈ নতুন বাস্তাৰ কাম গৰণ মেণ্টে হাতত লয় এইবোৰ বাস্তাৰ আঠৰুৱা কাম দেখি বাইজ বৰ দুখীত। কথাতে কয় আছে গৰু নৱয় হাল হোৱাতকৈ নহোৱায়ে ভাল কাজে কাজে মোৰ অনুৰোধ যি বিলাক বাস্তা আজিলৈ আঠৰুৱা হৈ আছে তাৰ কাম এই বছৰৰ ভিতৰত শেষ কৰিহে নতুন কাম কৰিবলৈ হাত মেলা সখিক হব। বিশেষ কৰ লগা নাই যিহেতু সময় তাকৰ এই খিনিকে কৈ ধন্যবাদ জ্ঞাপন কৰি সামৰণি মাৰিলো।

Shri BIRENDRAKUMAR DAS [Patacharkuchi (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)] : মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় মোৰ সমষ্টিত কোনো নতুন বাস্তা নোহোৱাৰ কাৰনে জনসাধাৰণে ভাবে যে চৰকাৰে কোনো কাম কৰা নাই ঠিক সেইদৰে অনান্য সমষ্টিৰ মানুহবোৰেও নিশ্চয় তেওঁলোকৰ কথা ভাবে আৰু এনে ধাৰনা পোষন কৰে যে কোনো বাস্তা পদূলী যদি কৰিব নোৱাৰে তেনেহলে প্ৰতিনিধি সকলক পঠোৱাৰ উদ্দেশ্য কি? আৰু প্ৰতিনিধি সকলৰ বা লাভ কি? এতিয়া কথা হৈছে যে নতুন বাস্তা লোৱাৰ কোনো পৰিকল্পনা নাই বুলি কৈছে; কিন্তু যিবিলাক পুৰনি বাস্তা পৰিপূৰ্ণ হোৱা নাই সেইবোৰ অন্ততঃ সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিব লাগে। সেইবোৰো যদি আধৰুৱাকৈয়ে পেলায় খোৱা হয় তেনেহলে জনসাধাৰণৰ ধাৰনা নিশ্চয় সন্তোষজনক নহব। মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যাতে পুৰনি আৰু অসম্পূৰ্ণ বাস্তাবোৰ অনতিপলমে সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিবলৈ চেষ্টা কৰে আৰু তেতিয়াহে জনসাধাৰণৰ মনতো আশ্বাস হব। এইটো অকল মোৰ সমষ্টিতে নহয় গোটেই অসমতে যিবিলাক পুৰনি বাস্তা আধৰুৱাই আছে সেই আটাইবোৰ বাস্তা সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিবলৈ Public Works Department তৎপৰ হোৱা অতি আৱশ্যক।

দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে যে Self-help grant আৰু Development grant বৃদ্ধি কৰা দৰকাৰ, তেতিয়া হলে বাইজে নিজেই বহুত বাস্তা কৰি লব পাৰিব। এইটো বৰ খুশী কথা যে নতুন বাস্তাৰ পৰিকল্পনাও নাই আৰু আধৰুৱা পুৰনি বাস্তাবোৰো সেইদৰেই আছে, অথচ অফিচাৰ বিলাক আগৰ সন্মানেই আছে। নতুন কামো হোৱা নাই পুৰনি কামো পৰি আছে আৰু অফিচাৰ বিলাকো সন্মানেই আছে। কিন্তু টকা হলে surrender কৰা হৈছে টাইবেল এৰিয়াৰ পশু চিকিৎসালয়ৰ কাৰণে যি টকা মঞ্জুৰ হৈছিল সেই টকাও lapse হৈ গল। যদি সেয়ে হয় তেনেহলে কাম নোহোৱা Huge Department এটা ৰখা

কি আৱশ্যক ! এই বিভাগৰ কাম নাই বুলি কৈছে ইকালে দুৰ্নীতি চলিয়েই আছে। এই কথা সকলো সদস্যই জানে। উদাহৰণ স্বৰূপে কওঁ যে মোৰ সমষ্টিৰ পাটাচাবকুছি বৰমা বাস্তাবে ১১, ১২, ১৩, ১৪, মাইল gravelling কৰোঁতে ৩৬০ বাকচৰ ঠাইত মাত্ৰ ১৯০ বাকচ হৈ দিয়া দিয়া হ'ল, অৰ্থাৎ Payment হ'ল ৩৬০ বাকচৰ। এই কথা চৰকাৰকো জনোৱা হৈছে, কিন্তু কোনো প্ৰতিশোধন নহ'ল। এতিয়া গ্ৰেভেলিঙও বন্ধ হৈ আছে।

বামৰাজ্যৰ দিনৰে যিবোৰ ঠিকাদাৰ সেইবোৰেই কাম পাই আছে, নতুন ঠিকাদাৰে কাম পোৱা নাই। তাৰ ভিতৰত কিবা বহুশ্য আছে বুলিহে আমাৰ বিশ্বাস। টিছ মাথিৰাহ P.W.D. বাস্তাৰ এটা অংশ প্ৰায় ৩ মাইল মান হ'ব—এতিয়াও আধকৰা হৈ আছে এই বাস্তা চৰকাৰে সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰাৰ কাৰণে আবেদন কৰা হৈছে কিন্তু এতিয়াও সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰা নাই। মুখ্য মন্ত্ৰীকো কোৱা হৈছে তেখেতে Public Works Department ক টকা allot কৰিবলৈ কৈছে কিন্তু কোনো ফল ধৰা নাই। আশাকৰো টিছ-মানকাছাৰ বাস্তাটো সম্পূৰ্ণ কৰিব। এই বছৰত টিছ হাবিতাঙা বাস্তাটোৰ অঙ্কন (alignment) কথাটো লৈ প্ৰায় দুবছৰৰ পৰাই গুণ্ডগোল হৈ আছে। চৰকাৰেও ঠিক কৰি দিয়া নাই। ফলত মকদ্দমা পৰ্যন্ত হৈছে আৰু ৰাইজৰো ক্ষতি হৈছে। মই আশাকৰো এই বাস্তাটোৰ অঙ্কন টো (alignment) চৰকাৰে ঠিক কৰি দি ৰাইজৰ মাজত সন্তোষ সৃষ্টি কৰি আৰু বাস্তাটোও চৰকাৰে হাতত ল'ব।

Swami KRISHNANDA BRAHMACHARI (Kokrajhar) :

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয় কোঁকৰাঝাৰ মহকুমাৰ পশ্চিম বঙ্গ সীমাৰ পৰা কামৰূপ বৰ্ডাৰ পৰ্যন্ত পৰিছে। এই খন এখন একৰাবে পিচপৰা ঠাই। বিজনী চিদলী থানাৰ কিছুমান ঠাইলৈ আজিলৈকে কোনো এজনো মন্ত্ৰী যাব পৰা নাই। পাৰ্বতী, আমগুৰি, বামটেঙা, ভবানীপুৰ আদি ঠাইলৈ যাতায়ত কৰাৰ কোনো ব্যৱস্থা নাই। মাননীয় ব্ৰহ্ম ডাঙৰীয়া এবাৰমান গৈছিল। মানাহ, উল্টা খুন্দা আৰু বেকী-নৈয়ে এনেকৈ সন্মুখ খুন্দা কৰি ৰাখিছে যে কোনো মিনিটাবেই তালৈ যোৱাটো সম্ভৱ হৈ উঠা নাই। সৰু নদী দুলানীৰ দলং নোহোৱাৰ কাৰণে বিজনী বিছিন্ন হৈ থাকে। গোঁৱাঙ্গ বিজৰ বাহিৰে কোনো এখন বিজৰ কাম P.W.D. বিভাগে লোৱা নাই। আজি স্বাধীনতা পোৱাৰ ১১ বছৰৰ পিচতো মোৰ সমষ্টিটোৰ বাস্তা পদূলি একো ব্যৱস্থা নোহোৱাটো দুঃখৰ কথা। আমাৰ যিবোৰ পিচপৰা ঠাই আছে সেই বোৰক বাদ দি আন ঠাই বোৰৰ উন্নতি সাধন কৰিলেই সমগ্ৰ অসমৰ উন্নতি কেতিয়াও হ'ব নোৱাৰে। চৰকাৰে পিচপৰা ঠাই যবপৰা জনসাধাৰনৰ দাবী আহি পোৱাৰ নানা অসুবিধা আছে সেই বোৰৰ প্ৰতি নিজে আগ্ৰহ লৈ শুভদৃষ্টি দিয়াতো চৰকাৰৰ কৰ্তব্য। আজি সম-শাসনৰ দিনত সকলোকে চৰকাৰে সমভাবে চাব বুলি আশা কৰি চৰকাৰৰ তীক্ষ্ণ-দৃষ্টি যাতে এই বিষয়টোৰ প্ৰতি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব পাৰে তাৰ বাবে সানুগুণে নিবেদন জনালো। তাকে কৰিব নোৱাৰিলে চৰকাৰে প্ৰকাশ কৰা কাগজৰ কথা কাগজতে থাকিব, প্ৰকৃত কাম আৰু কেতিয়াও নহয়।

Shrimati KAMAL KUMARI BARUA (Katonigaon) :

মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, মাননীয় মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে P.W.D. ৰ শিতানত ধৰা মন্ত্ৰীবাটো সমৰ্থন কৰে। সময়ৰ অভাৱত এই বিভাগটোৰ সম্পৰ্কে আলোচনা নকৰি কেৱল মোৰ অৱহেলিত সমষ্টিটোৰ দুই এটা কথালৈ চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিব খোজো।

মহোদয়, মোৰ সমষ্টিটোৱে গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগৰ পানীখোৱা পুখুৰীতেই কেতিয়াবা বিহ দিলে নে, ভগবানৰে অভিষাপ নাজানো স্বাধীনতা লাভ কৰাৰ এই ১২ বছৰৰ ভিতৰত মোৰ সমষ্টিটোলৈ চৰকাৰৰ সুদৃষ্টি আৰু নপৰিল চাওখাট মোজাৰ ৰাইজ আজিলৈকে

P.W.D. বাস্তা এটাৰ মুখ নেদেখিলে মৌজাটোৰ আধা অংশ গোটেই বছৰটোৱেই পানীৰ তলত থাকে বাৰিষা তাত যি পানীত হাঁহ নচৰা অৱস্থা হয় তাক নেদেখিলে বজিব নোৱাৰি। তিনকুৰীয়া গাঁৱৰ বাইজে আলিৰ কাষত চাইকেল থৈ ঘৰৰ পৰা হাতত জোতা লৈ অহা যোৱা কৰিব লগা হয়। বিশেষকৈ এই অঞ্চলৰ স্কুল কলেজৰ ছাত্ৰ সকলে বাৰিষা দিন কেইটা নাকনি কাননিকৈ শিকিব লগাত পৰে। যি বা লাঠৈ গড় বাস্তাটো লোৱা হল সি কেতিয়াকৈ সম্পূৰ্ণ হয়গৈ কব নোৱাৰি। ঠিক তেনেকৈয়ে গড়া আলিটোৰ অৱস্থা বাৰিষাই বা খবালি সকলো সময়তে বাৰিষা নোকা আৰু খবালি ধূলিৰ প্ৰকোপত যিকপ ধাৰণ কৰে তাক মুখেৰে বুজাব নোৱাৰি। চবাইবাহী আৰু কাটিনি এই দুয়োটা মৌজাৰ বাইজে এই আলিটো asphalted কৰিবৰ কাৰণে বাইজে চৰকাৰৰ ওচৰত কিমান আবেদন নিবেদন কৰিলে তাৰ সীমা সংখ্যা নাই, কিন্তু আজিলৈকে তাৰ ফল নধৰিলে। চবাইবাহী মৌজাৰ কহাঁৰ ঝানুন গাওঁ আলিটো বাইজে বহু দিনৰ পৰা P.W.D. এ লবৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰি আছে তাৰো একো গুটি ধৰা নাই।

অসম কৃষি কলেজৰ সমুখৰ বাস্তাটো তাহানি মিলিটেৰীয়ে থৈ যোৱাৰ দৰেই এতিয়াও আছে। কিন্তু P. W. D. এও নলয় লোকেল বোৰ্ডও নলয়। ফলত উমৈহতীয়া শ বাহি হৈছে।

চাও-খাটৰ চেকীয়াখোৱা বব নামঘৰলৈ Trunk Road ৰ পৰা দুইমাইল বাট মাত্ৰ, অন্য মাহৰ উপৰিও ভাদ মাহৰ নামঘৰলৈ দিনে ২০০/৩০০ বাইজৰ অহাযোৱা হয়, কিন্তু বাস্তাটোৰ দুববস্তায় বাইজক যথেষ্ট কষ্ট দিছে। মাজুলীৰ গৰাখহনীয়াত বিধস্ত কৈবৰ্ত বাইজ কিছু মাননক মেলেং বিকুইজিনচ গ্ৰান্টত বসতি দিলেগৈ সঁচা কিন্তু সেই মানুহ খিনিৰ ওলোৱা সোমোৱা বাট পদূলিৰ ব্যৱস্থা নহল। তেওঁলোকৰ বাহিৰলৈ ওলাবলৈ হলে হয় মেলেং বাগিচাৰ মাজেদি আহিব লাগিব নহয় মেলেং ফৰেষ্ট বিজাৰ্ডৰ মাজেদি যাব লাগিব। এতিয়া মেলেং বাগিচাৰ মেনেজাৰে বাস্তাটো বন্ধ কৰি পেলালে, ফৰেষ্টেও ভিতৰেদি তেওঁলোকৰ সকলো সময়তে অহাযোৱা কৰিবলৈ নিদিয়ৈ এইবোৰ কাৰণত এই বানবিধস্ত কৈবৰ্ত বাইজে যথেষ্ট অসুবিধাৰ মাজেদি দিন কটাৰ লগীয়ত পৰিছে। এই দৰে মোৰ সমষ্টিটোৰ আলি পদূলিৰ দুৰ্দশাৰ কথা কৈ শেষ কৰিব নোৱাৰো।

যিহওক জনপ্ৰিয় চৰকাৰে সহানুভূতিৰে বাইজৰ বিননি বিবেচনা কৰি অহা বছৰৰ ভিতৰত অন্ততঃ চাওখাট মৌজাৰ বাস্তা দুটা লব বুলি মই বিনীত অনুৰোধ কৰো। চাওখাটৰ তিনিকুৰীয়া বাস্তাটো যদি P. W. D. লয় তেন্তে একেবাৰে নিমাত্তিৰ পৰা নকছাবী ৰেল ষ্টেচনলৈ এই গোটেই অঞ্চলটোৰ বেপাৰ আদিৰ যথেষ্ট সুচল হৈ পৰিব যাৰ জৰিয়তে দুটা মৌজাৰ বাইজে নিজৰ আৰ্থিক অৱস্থা টনকিয়াল কৰিবলৈ সুবিধা পাব।

স্কুল কলেজৰ লৰা ছোৱালীৰ বৰ্তমান দুৰ্গতিলৈ চাই গড়া আলিটোৰ চৰকাৰে এই বছৰত asphalted কৰাৰ দিহা কৰিব বুলি মই আশা কৰিলো।

মহোদয়,
এই সদনৰ মজিয়াতে আমি গুনিবলৈ পাইছো যে টকাৰ অভাৱত Road Communication Board বহিব পৰা নাই কিন্তু প্ৰত্যেক বছৰৰ শেষত P. W. D. ৰ শিতানৰ পৰা যথেষ্ট টকা Surrender হোৱাটো আমি গতানুগতিক কথা ৰূপে দেখিবলৈ পাইছো।

জানিব পাৰিছো মোৰ বন্ধু শ্ৰীমতী লিলি সেনগুপ্তাৰ সমষ্টিৰ আলি পদূলিৰ অৱস্থাও অতি শোকা লগা। সেইবাবে মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো বাজেট যি appropriate কৰি হলেও ঘেন মই ৰেগাৰা বাস্তা কেইটা এইবাৰ লয় বেহেতু সেনুয়েল আৰু Financial rules যি reappropriate কৰাত বাধা নিদিয়ৈ।
ইয়াকে কৈ মই প্ৰস্তাৱটো সমৰ্থন কৰি কৰ্ত্তন প্ৰস্তাৱৰ বিৰোধীতা কৰো।

Shri KHOGENDRA NATH BARBAURUAH (Amguri): Sir, our Ministers when they are out and when they are Ministers they speak sense. Sir, I mean to say that these Ministers when go to the village and mix up with the mass people and say Government are not doing this and that, no action has been taken on this matter etc. "This road should be taken, this school deserves recognitions aid etc."—but later on we find that their words and deeds do not agree.

Sir, ours is a frontier State. The Government of India must look to the interest of this Frontier State. We must have certain plan and if necessary we shall force the India Government to help this strategic state. But Sir, this Government has no plan at all. There is Naga Hills in the frontier of this State. Sir we should have some plan to construct some roads all over the State Government should give necessary stresses in the way of making a net work of roads. It is therefore desirable to construct some roads immediately by the side Naga Hills, linking the Tea Gardens and industrial and commercial centre Sir, the Ladoi Garh road is lying there full of mud and dust and Government do not pay any attention to this strategically important Road, though many petitions have been lodged. There is no reply even from the Government to these petitions. Namtiali road serves as a feeder road connecting the tea area with the Railway stations. The distance of this road from Namtiali to Ladoigarh is only 5 or 6 miles. Sometimes when Ministers pay visit to these places, they used to say that the road is a good one and that it should be taken by the Government. But even now the road has not been taken over. Whenever a Ministers visit those places and meet the people in meeting, they assured the people that the road would be taken over and said they would move the Minister concern to do the needful. Just the other day, a Minister went to Khoragar, met the people in a meeting which was presided over by him, and passed a resolution which stated that the road Khoragar Kakati be taken. The resolution was signed by him as President but uptil now nothing has been done.

(Voices—who is the Minister)

The particular Minister is absent to-day and he is not here and he is Shri Tripathy. Very recently he had been there probably on 26th January. There are also many other roads which are lying in this way. For instance the Maduri, Dekhowmukh, Seuni, Mahgarhali but lying there, roads are also good roads. Whenever Ministers paid visit to this place they would say that the road is good but at the time of taking it over, they do not care to take any step. That is why I say Government speak with two voices. Moreover, Government is also wasting the State fund in some other ways. Sometimes, we find heave of boulders by the side of the roads. These boulders are simply kept there uncared for and villagers used to carry them away for their own use like building paddy houses, etc. So we see there is a loss of public money in this way. We also sometimes find that contractors are using very soft timber which used to give way even within a year thereby wasting the public money. You will find this in the Teok Transport office. Therefore, our Government should be very active in seeing that the public money is not wasted in this way. Another thing that I want to speak is about the asphaltation work. This work does not last even a year. If you travel from Jaji to Sibsagar you will find some patch work there. In many cases this does not last even for a year because Government take into consideration the tenders of contractors who

offer the lowest rate and consideration and acceptance of the lowest rate brings such a result. Another thing move about the formation of the Shramik Bahini. This Government had passed a resolution to form a Shramik Bahini and in principle I accept this resolution. But I understand here is some delay in the formation of this Shramik Bahini. I have heard that one man has been appointed in the middle of January for this purpose but even now the sanction has not been given by the Finance Department. I do not know what is the reason for this delay and I do not know whether Government is really sincere to form it. If so, certainly Government should expedite this matter. I also want that this Shramik Bahini should be free from the party politics. But if Government follow the same policy as what they are doing with the co-operatives and if they are partial, then the ideal of Shramik Bahini will be frustrated. When there are youths who are eager to do constructive work for the good of the country, the willingness and spirit of such youths should be encouraged and they should be organised in such a way so that party politics do not disturb them. I hope Government will consider this seriously and should be without any bias so that this Shramik Bahini may be allowed to work freely. This is my contention and I hope Government will accept my suggestions.

Shri NARENDRA NATH SARMA (Dergaon): মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, গৰকাপ্তানী মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয়ে সদনত উত্থাপন কৰা অনুদানটো সমৰ্থন কৰি নই বুলি খুজিছো যে অসম P. W. D. বিভাগৰ পঞ্চবাৰ্ষিক পৰিকল্পনাত যিবিলাক বাস্তৱ লোৱা হৈছে তাৰ উপৰিও ৰাজ্যিক চৰকাৰে State Revenue পৰা কিছুমান বাস্তৱ লোৱাৰ ব্যৱস্থা কৰিব লাগে। অসমৰ বাহিৰৰ বহুতো ৰাজ্যই যেনে বিহাৰ, উত্তৰপ্ৰদেশ আদি নানা ৰাজ্যই ৰাজ্যিক খৰচতে আনকি দৰ্কাৰ অনুসাৰে গাঁৱৰ পৰাও কোনো কোনো উদ্যোগ কেন্দ্ৰলৈ সুন্দৰ বাস্তৱ কৰি দিছে।

মোৰ আলোচনা অকল আমাৰ হবলগীয়া চেনীকলৰ ওচৰে পাজৰেই আবদ্ধ ৰাখিম। আমি জানিব পাৰিছো উত্তৰপ্ৰদেশ, বিহাৰ, আৰু পঞ্জাব আদিত যিবিলাক চেনীকল আছে তাত কুহিয়াৰ কৃষি ক্ষেত্ৰ আৰু চেনীকল সংলগ্ন কৰি সুন্দৰ বাস্তৱ কৰি দিছে যাতে ততালিকে ক্ষেত্ৰৰ পৰা কুহিয়াৰ আনি কলত যোগাৰ পাৰে। সেইবোৰ ৰাজ্যিক চৰকাৰে কুহিয়াৰ যোগাই উদ্যোগ চালু কৰিবলৈ যথেষ্ট বাস্তৱ্যটি কৰি যথেষ্ট টকা খৰচ কৰিছে। মহোদয়, দেৱগাঁৱত নতুনকৈ প্ৰতিষ্ঠা হোৱা সমবায় চেনীকলৰ কাৰণে প্ৰয়োজনীয় বাট পথ লাগে। সেই চেনীকলত দিনে ২২ হাজাৰ মৌন কুহিয়াৰৰ দৰ্কাৰ। এইটো সকলোৱে জানে যে সেই কুহিয়াৰও বেচিভাগ কিছু দূৰৰ গাঁৱৰ পৰা আহিব লাগিব।

এতিয়া যিবিলাক ঠাইত সেই কুহিয়াৰ উৎপন্ন হয় আৰু তাৰ পৰা চেনীকললৈ কোনো বাস্তৱ নথকাত সেই কুহিয়াৰ গাওঁবিলাকৰ পৰা আহিব নোৱাৰে। গতিকে চেনীকলৰ অচল অৱস্থা হোৱাৰ উপক্ৰম হৈছে। অগত্যা সমবায় চেনীকলে গৰ্ভণ মেন্টক জনোৱা বাস্তৱবোৰ নোহোৱাক কাৰনে বহুতো ক্ষতি হোৱা দেখিবলৈ পোৱা হৈছে। ২০/২৫ দিন খেতিয়াই কুহিয়াৰ কাটি পেলাই থৈছে, অথচ বাস্তৱ অভাবত মানুহে কুহিয়াৰ আনিব পৰা নাই।

কুহিয়াৰেই যদি আমি উৎপাদন কেন্দ্ৰসমূহৰ পৰা নাপাও তেন্তে চেনী কলটে কৰি নিশ্চিত খকাৰ জানো কিবা মূল্য আছে?

মই ভাবো এই বছৰ যদি এই বাস্তৱ কৰি দিয়া নহয় অহা বছৰ চেনীকলৰে উৎপাদনশীল হব সেইটো মুঠেই সম্ভৱ নহয়।

খঙ্গীয়া, দক্ষিণ হেঙ্গেবা, কনাব গাওঁ যোগনীয়া হাবিগাওঁ বাঙ্গণীদি আলি লোৱাৰ কথা কোৱা হৈছে আমি জনাত চৰকাৰৰ নগ্ৰুৰী দিলে এই বছৰত এই ৰাস্তা বোৰ হব পাৰে কিন্তু সোনকালে যদি এই বাট পথ নিৰ্মাণ নহয় তেন্তে অহা বছৰ বিশেষ অসুবিধা হব গতিকে মই এই কথাটোলৈ চৰকাৰৰ তীক্ষ্ণ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰে ইয়াৰ বাহিৰেও বৰপথাৰৰ যি দুটা ৰাস্তা চৰকাৰে Sanction দিছে সেই দুটাৰ কাম হোৱা নাই। এই ৰাস্তাৰ অভাৱত কুহিয়াৰ অনানিয়া কৰা অসুবিধা হৈছে। গতিকে—অসমৰ চেনীকলৰ নিচিনা Co-operative Industry বিলাকৰ বাবে উন্নতি হয় তাৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰে কাৰ্য্যকৰী ব্যৱস্থা অবলম্বন কৰিব আৰু P.W.D. ৰ তৰফৰ পৰা যাতে এই ৰাস্তাঘাটৰ নিৰ্মাণ কাৰ্য্য কৰা হয় তালৈ চৰকাৰৰ দৃষ্টি আকৰ্ষণ কৰিলে। ৰাস্তা আজিও উন্নত নহল। ইয়াৰ পাচত গোলাঘাট চিকাৰিঘাট ৰাস্তা। সেই ৰাস্তা গোটেই শিৱসাগৰৰ তিতৰতে প্ৰধান ৰাস্তা। এই ৰাস্তা আজি যি অৱস্থাত আছে সেই অৱস্থাটোৰ কাৰণে ৰাইজৰ বহু পৰিমাণে অসুবিধা হৈছে। গতিকে এই ৰাস্তাটো যেন চৰকাৰে অতি সোনকালে এচফালট কৰি দিয়ে তাৰ কাৰণে অনুৰোধ জনাই মোৰ কবলগীয়া শেষ কৰিলো।

Shri MOHANANDA BORA (North Lakhimpur): Mr. Speaker, Sir, in supporting the Government Demand I want to speak something regarding this Department. In this Department about 1/3rd of the budget is spent and we thank our Government for this. During the Plan period, Government have achieved manythings. In the budget speech of the Finance Minister we have seen that out of the Plan target of 650 miles to be completed, till 1958-59, 560 miles of roads and some major bridges have been completed. I thank the Government for this. I want to give some suggestions to the Government. There are many anomalies in the working of the Department. We have seen that often times the sanctions for starting works reaches to the local officers late in the working period. Last year we learnt that some Special Officers for expediting financial sanctions were being appointed for the major departments such as Public Works Department, Agriculture and Education. But we find this year also things have not improved, as we expected. In my subdivision, we have seen when we enquire about many such works from the E. E. or the Subdivisional Officers, the reply is often given that they have not received the sanctions. This question of not receiving sanctions remains till the month of March. In Assam rainy season starts from the middle of April, but we have seen that sanctions for the works does not reach the local officers till February or March. So how can they start the works. My first suggestion to the Government is that Government should try its utmost to send the sanctions just immediately after the passing of the budget and then the local Officers may prepare the scheme for the next winter season for completing the works. This is my first suggestion. Then I have many things to speak. We have seen that some of the roads taken up in the First Five Year Plan and in the beginning Second Five Year Plan have not yet been completed. In my subdivision, I have seen that a road which was sanctioned out of the grant Art. 275 -Pohumara pakonia which was started in 1952-53 has not yet been completed though 5 or 6 years have elapsed. Not to speak of it being a motorable one, even it is not fit for use by pedestrians. So is the case with Bagalmora-malapindha road, Barbat Road, Badati-Dikrong road. This Badati-Dikrong road was started in the First Plan period. Only 4 miles of this road was completed and the rest 2 miles were left incomplete. Now what is the reason for leaving this 2 miles incomplete when the total length of the road is only 6 miles. What is the use of starting such a work, and doing only 2 or 3 miles which does not come to any use to the public? We have

seen in East Subansiri a bridge over vicer Sampara was completed spending about 60 to 70 thousands of rupees and what happened? In one year two portions of the bridge sank down. The Subdivisional Officer and the E. E. went there and asked the Overseer to raise it again. If after such heavy expenditure it sank down, I hope Government will enquire into this matter. I thank our Government that in places of east of Subansiri, where there was no road during the 120 years of British rule, several miles of road 70 to 80 miles were completed, but I want the Government to make an enquiry about the work done. There are many lapses and many other things which require a thorough enquiry.

Now coming to the North Trunk Road there was a provision for black-topping the road from North Gauhati to North Lakhimpur but the work is progressing at a very slow speed, which should be carried out at a double speed otherwise it is doubtful if it can be finished even during the middle of Third Five Year Plan. In North Lakhimpur no black-topping has been done uptill now. During this Second Five Year Plan period of think there will not be any substantial work of black-topping done. Regarding the Buroi bridge, the pillars were completed long ago. I have heard that for want of materials, the contractors are unable to proceed with the work and the bridge is remaining in its former position.

Regarding the Sramik Bahini Sir, we have seen in the Budget we have spent about 11 crores of rupees under the Head Public Works Department. If this money could be earned by our people it would have been a great achievement. The work for organising the Sramik Bahini is not progressing well. Government have not done anything else except sending a book called Sramik Bahini. Government should take effective steps to organise this Bahini which will render a good service in that it will give employment to our uneducated or half-educated unemployed youths of the villages. Year before last we organised a Bahini in the name of Sevadal. In my subdivision about 6,000 people worked under this organisation and earned about 2½ lakhs of rupees by executing works of the Public Works Department, Embankment and Drainage and Local Bodies. So I request the Government to give proper attention to organise this. With these few words, Sir, I support the motion moved by the Government and oppose the cutmotions.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) মাননীয় অধ্যক্ষ মহোদয়, জয় জয়তে মই কব খুজিছে যে বিচক্ষণ বাজনীতিজ্ঞ শ্রীবাজাগোপালাচাৰীয়ে কমিউনিষ্ট আৰু গড়-কাপ্তানী বিভাগক ১নং শত্ৰু বিবেচনা কৰিছিল; কিন্তু মই সেইদৰে বিবেচনা নকৰো। আমাৰ গড়কাপ্তানী মন্ত্ৰী যি জন শিক্ষা মন্ত্ৰীও কালি কৈছিল যে তেখেতে শ্রীহাজৰীকা, শ্রীগোস্বামী আৰু মোক ভাল পায়। কিন্তু তেখেতে হলে মোৰ সমষ্টিত এতিয়ালৈকে যোৱা নাই। মোৰ সমষ্টিত বাস্তব বাবে বা শিক্ষাৰ বাবে টকা দিয়া মনত নপৰে। ডেৰগাওঁ- বামগাওঁ বাস্তৱতা যেনে বৰ দৰকাৰী এই কথাটো মন্ত্ৰী মহোদয় আৰু ইঞ্জিনীয়াৰ সকলেও স্বীকাৰ কৰিছে। মণ্ডলদৈৰ সদস্য সকলেও এই বাস্তৱতাৰ কথা চৰকাৰক জনাইছে। বৰ্তমান মণ্ডলদৈৰ মানুহ ৰঙিয়া, বৰপেটা, নলবাৰী আদি ঠাইলৈ যাব লাগিলে ৬০ মাইল ঘূৰি যাব লগাত পৰিছে। কিন্তু এই বাস্তৱতা হলে মাত্ৰ ৭ মাইল যাব লাগিব, আৰু এই বাস্তৱতা কোনো দলং নাই। ইঞ্জিনীয়াৰ সকলে হিচাপ কৰি কৈছে যে এক লাখ একাশি হাজাৰ খৰচ হব আৰু বাস্তৱতা হলে কামৰূপৰ সদস্যসকলৰ লগত যোগাযোগ হোৱাৰ সুবিধা হব। দ্বিতীয় কথা হৈছে যে হৰিশিঙাৰ পৰা ওদালগুৰিলৈ যোৱা বাস্তৱতা দুখন দলং দৰকাৰ। এই বাস্তৱতা নোহোৱা বাবে জনজাতি অঞ্চলৰ লগত যোগাযোগ কৰিব পৰা নাই। এই দলং দুখন কৰিবৰ বাবে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিলো।

গুৱাহাটী ফেব্রুৱাৰীৰ সময় সলনি কৰিব লাগে যাতে ছিলঙৰ পৰা যোৱা মানুহে পাব হবলৈ সুবিধা পাব পাৰে, অৰ্থাৎ ১০-১০ মিনিট কৰিলে ভাল হয়।

(Voice—আপোনাৰ সুবিধা চাবনে বাইজৰ সুবিধা চাব) মোৰ সুবিধা মানে বাইজৰো সুবিধা হ'ব।

গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগে কামবোৰ বাস্তৱ পৰিকল্পনা কৰি ল'ব লাগে যাতে গোটেই অসমকে সামৰিব পাৰে। তেতিয়াই আমাৰ বেচিভাগ মানুহৰ উপকাৰ হ'ব। Road Board এ কিছুমান বাস্তা ভালকৈ পৰীক্ষা কৰি নোচোৱাকৈ লোৱা দেখা যায় এই বিভাগে কিছুমান ঠাইত মাটি বিচাৰিলে বাজৰ বিভাগে মাটি নিদিয়, সুবিধা দিছে বুলি কয়। টংলাত গড়কাপ্তানী অফিচৰ কাৰণে ১০ বিঘা মাটি দৰকাৰ আৰু মোৰ আগতে মাটি দেখুৱাই দিছে। কিন্তু গড়কাপ্তানীবিভাগে কয় যে formally hand over কৰা নাই হৰিশিঙাত গড়কাপ্তানী ডাক বঙলা কৰিবৰ বাবে ৭ বিঘা মাটি দিয়া হৈছে, কিন্তু গড়কাপ্তানী বিভাগে কয় যে মাটি দিয়া নাই। মই দুই গৰাকি মন্ত্ৰীকে অনুৰোধ কৰিছো এই বেমেজালি বোৰ সোনকালে ওচাৰ লাগে। খাৰুপেটীয়া-ওদালগুৰি বাস্তাটো অতি আৱশ্যকীয় বিধেয়ক জনজাতীয় লোকৰ কাৰণে; কাৰণ এই বাস্তাইদি জনজাতীয় লোকসকল ওদালগুৰি হাটলৈ আহে ধান বেচা কিনা কৰিবৰ কাৰণে। এই বাস্তাটো যদি খাৰুপেটীয়ালৈ নিয়া হয় তেনেহলে অন্ততঃ দুটকা ৰূপ বেচি পাব। বেহা বেপাৰৰ বিষয়ত এই বাস্তাটো বৰ মূল্যবান। ইয়াৰ জৰীপ হৈ আছে। (এনেতে চিলিঙা বাজে।) মই চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰো যে হৰিশিঙা ওদালগুৰি বাস্তাৰ দুখন দলং আৰু ভেৰগাওঁ-বামগাওঁ বাস্তাটোৰ কাৰণে চৰকাৰক অনুৰোধ কৰিলো। এই বাস্তাৰ পৰা উত্তৰ অঞ্চলৰ মানুহৰ বৰ উপকাৰ হ'ব।

কালি মই বহুত দৰকাৰী Suggestion দিছো কিন্তু উত্তৰ নেপালো। আশা কৰো আজি উত্তৰ পাম।

Shri DANDESWAR HAZARIKA (Morongi): Mr. Speaker, Sir, although I am unable to support the Cut Motion of my friend, I want to make a few observations regarding this department. My first observation is, Sir, regarding the two national highways of Assam. In the road from Numalighar to Dimapur which is a national highway, a diversion road was made about 5 years ago from Silonijan to Dimapur Bazar.

The diversion was taken up about five years ago from Silonijan to Dimapur bazar. But unfortunately up till now the road is not complete; probably the bridges and culverts are not completed. That is why people cannot pass by the diversion road now. As a result, all vehicular traffic has to pass by the other road, which has been wiped away in many places by Dhansiri river. It is difficult now for a man to go to Dimapur from Golaghat by car. It takes at least four or five hours for a distance of about 60 miles. The condition of the road, bridges and culverts is so hopelessly bad that it is impossible to drive at more than 15 miles an hour. So, I draw the attention of the Government to see that this diversion is completed as early as possible. This is a very important national highway. It connects the Naga Hills with the rest of Assam. It is also important from the Military point of view as hundreds of military vehicles are passing everyday to Naga Hills by this road.

Then, Sir, I would like to point out the condition of the South Trunk Road, which is also a national highway. Most of the hon. Members have passed by that road and they must have seen the condition of the bridges. In certain places the bridges are so narrow that a big truck can hardly pass

As a result accidents take place on these bridges. It is my earnest request to Government that steps should be taken to widen these bridges as early as possible. There are sign-boards on the bridges that the maximum load that can pass over the bridge is 18,000 lbs. But we see in practice that big trucks with load of about four to five hundred maunds pass over these bridges. As a result, the bridges are broken within a short time. What is the use of these sign-boards if they are not honoured? I request Government to see that the maximum load-limit is strictly enforced.

Then, Sir, I would like to point out that the Badarpur—Jowai road is also a very important road. I think the construction of that road is going on for the last four years, but till now it has not been completed. Only in winter people can go by that road with great difficulty. I hope Government will give special attention to this road and see that it is completed as early as possible since this is the only road which connects the Cachar District with the rest of Assam.

Then, Sir, I would like to draw the attention of the Minister to the border roads of Naga Hills and Cachar District. They require improvement. During rainy season the Armed Forces cannot carry their ration as they cannot take their vehicles to their camping places. Also there is no communication for patrolling the border areas. We brought this matter to the notice of the Chief Minister also and he assured us that he would see if these roads could be taken up. I hope our P. W. D. Minister will see that this roads are improved without any further delay.

Now, Sir, regarding ferries, there are two important ferries; one at Jogighopa on the national highway and the other at Neamati. As there is no steamer the people have to cross the river with great difficulty. Recently we the Members of the Estates Committee, went to Dhubri and on our return we crossed the river at Jogighopa. Suddenly a storm came and we did not know what to do. The whole boat was tilting from one side to the other. Thank God; we somehow reached the shore with great difficulty. Similar is the case in Neamati also, which connects North Lakhimpur with Sibsagar. We hope Government will take early steps to place two steamers on these two ghats of the Brahmaputra.

Then, Sir, I would like to point out the need for constructing an Inspection Bungalow nearabout Sorupathar. This is a border area and many Military and Civil Officers go there. Even officers of the P. W. D. have to go there. Due to lack of accommodation the officers are put to great difficulty. I, therefore, hope Government will take early steps to construction Inspection Bungalow either at Sorupathar or Naojan.

Then, Sir, I would like to point out that the headquarters of the S. D. O., P. W. D., Barpathar subdivision, are at Golaghat. He has to look at Dimapur and some portions of the Mikir Hills as well. It will, therefore, be better if his headquarters are shifted to a central place, say, Sorupathar, Barpathar or Naojan, so that it be comes easier for the officer to supervise his area properly.

With these few observations, I oppose the Cut Motion and support the demand moved by the Hon'ble Minister.

Rev. J. J. M. NICHOLS-ROY [Cherrapunji (Reserved for Scheduled Tribes)]: Mr. Speaker, Sir, under Grant No.55, I tabled two Cut Motions in order to get information from Government about two matters. At page 513 of the Budget, there is an amount of Rs.11,96,000 and at page 174 of the P. W. D. Budget under "Ordinary Road", I find mention of two items, viz., the Shella Rest House and the Shella village to Shella Bazar jeepable road. These were put down last year also. It is stated here that the road is in progress. But as far as I know no road has been made yet and no work has been done. I want to know whether Government is going to complete the work during the next year.

Then, regarding the ropeway, at page 513 of the Budget, in the middle of the page, it is written: Shella—Shillong Ropeway Rs.1,00,000.

I want to know whether that ropeway will be started or not. Also I want to know from the Hon. Minister about this Mawphlang—Balat road which has been promised to be completed last year. But even now that has not been done. Then Mawsnai—Shella road and Mawphlang—Balat road have not been completed. I want to know from the Minister whether these roads will be completed next year or not.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH** [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)]: Mr. Speaker Sir, I will try first to reply to the points raised by Rev. Nichols-Roy regarding construction of a Rest House at Shella, construction of a road from Shella bazar to Shella village and about the proposed Ropeway from Shella to Pandu. But about that Mawphlang-Balat Road I am sorry, I have not the necessary information with me at the moment. But I can pass on the information to the hon. Member hereafter.

Now regarding the construction of the Rest House at Shella the position is like this. Administrative approval at an estimated cost of Rs.24,500 has already been accorded for the construction of a Rest House at Shella in January, 1959, and also fund to the extent of Rs.24,500 has been placed at the disposal of the Executive Engineer concerned for expenditure during the current financial year. With a view to execute the work, tenders were invited and works allotted to the contractor. But it has been ascertained from the Executive Engineer that the work could not be started up till now as the possession of land has not yet been given by the District Council authorities in spite of repeated requests. The work will be started as soon as the possession of the land is received and it will be completed as early as possible. In this connection, I would only request the good offices and influence of the hon. Member for possession of the land. As regards the jeepable road from Shella village to Shella bazar, the position is like this. This is a Hill road. After proper survey along the possible alignment, it has been found out that the amount of Rs.50,000 provided in the Budget Estimate is inadequate for construction of such a road of 157 miles in length, as the locality is full of soil mixed with boulders and limestones. After detailed survey, the estimated cost works out to Rs.1,48,900. The matter is under consideration of the Government for finding out the additional fund of about Rs.1 lakh to complete the road. If additional fund does not become available, only a portion of the road with minimum standard can be taken up out of the budgetted amount of Rs.50,000.

*Speech not cited

Sir, I am now coming to the third point which has been made by Rev. Nichols-Roy, that is, about the Ropeway. Sir, both the people of the Plains and the Hills are interested in this project because it affects them commercially or otherwise to a great extent. Therefore, I may be allowed to make a fuller statement on it, although it will be an encroachment upon the time of the House. Now Sir, the present stage of the Ropeway scheme from Shella to Pandu is this—that the first phase of the ropeway scheme from Shella to Shillong has been approved by the Planning Commission for inclusion in the Second Five Year Plan of the State on the following condition.

1. The maximum capacity ropeway will be 20 ton per hour between Shella and Cherra and 80 ton per hour between Cherrapunjee and Shillong, the bucket capacity over these sections being limited to 10 ton per hour and 70 ton per hour respectively.

2. The State Government would work out revised estimate of the cost of the project after detailed ground surveys all along the proposed alignment and communicate these estimates to the Planning Commission before undertaking the scheme.

3. The scheme will be accommodated within the State's approved ceiling.

4. The State will not enter into any commitment with regard to the project until the location of the proposed cement factory is finalised and its establishment ensured beyond doubt.

5. As to the second phase of the project, namely, Shillong to Pandu while the Commission accept this in principle they would like to examine it afresh in the light of experience gained in the installation and of working of the first phase before they approve it for inclusion in the Third Five Year Plan. The State Government should not accordingly enter into any commitment in regard to the second phase of the project until the Planning Commission has proved this for inclusion in the Third Plan. Now Sir, the State Government objected to the conditions imposed. The Planning and Development Department have however, moved the Planning Commission *vide* their letter No.PWR.447/55/94. dated 18th September 1956 for allowing the State Government to float a loan of Rs.2 crores for this and other schemes. Mr. Shields of the British Ropeway and Engineering Corporation Limited, who came over here to advise Government about the Ropeway scheme proposed a ropeway from Cherra to Umtyngar for transport of coal and another ropeway from Shillong to Shella at the cost of Rs.2 crores for general merchandise. The Transport Department have conducted aerial survey of the ropeway through the agency of the Indian Air Force and the Survey of India have completed the ground survey of the portion between Mawmluh and Umtyngar and the rest of the alignments are being surveyed. On the basis of the survey report the estimate of the cost of the ropeway from Shella to Shillong will be prepared and the Planning Commission's approval will be sought as per condition attached by the Planning Commission in approving the scheme.

Setting up of the cement factory has been very recently decided which was a condition precedent to the ropeway but even though we may prepare estimate on the basis of the ground survey report the firm approval of the Planning Commission has to be obtained as per condition set out in their

approval. Besides, in view of the tight financial position, it is doubtful whether the expenditure on this scheme can be accommodated from amongst the State's approved ceiling. It will obviously also take time to start construction work as the quotations will have to be called for erection of the ropeway from tenderers all over the world. However, Chief Minister, Transport Minister, Finance Minister and Minister for Major Industries will shortly be meeting to expedite matters so that all impediments standing in the way of early construction of the ropeway is removed.

The second phase, namely, from Shillong to Pandu which is to be taken up during the Third Five Year Plan as per Planning Commission's approval in principle was to be determined in the light of the experience gained of the working of the Shella-Shillong portion. As it is hardly likely that the first phase as the scheme, between Shella and Shillong will be constructed during the Second Five Year Plan period not to speak of gauging the result of the working, which as per conditions set out by the Planning Commission will be necessary to include in the Third Five Year Plan of the portion of the ropeway scheme from Shillong to Pandu. The total length of the ropeway from Shella to Pandu is approximately .6 miles and the estimated cost to the neighbourhood of Rs.3 crores. A token provision of Rs.1 lakh has been made in the ensuing years budget on this scheme. Now Sir, the idea of a ropeway from Shella to Pandu was conceived with a view to provide cheap and expeditious transport for the product of Khasi and Jaintia Hills. It will also incidentally provide transport for finished products and fuel and raw materials for the cement factory. That Sir, is the position with regard to this ropeway from Shella to Pandu.

Now Sir, another point which has been touched by many hon. Members is about surrendering money. I don't think I have many new things to add. Sir, public memory is short but it seem that of the representatives of the public is shorter still because during the last session I described in detail why huge amounts of money have to be surrendered and what are the reasons for the same. Now when I speak about the proposed ropeway from Shella to Pandu it will be remembered that I have stated that one lakh of rupees has been budgetted as a token grant for the scheme. Now with that lakh of rupees what shall we do? Shall we surrender or we have no other alternative. If we do not include a token grant then I would have been accused of lack of heart. Here is a very important scheme in which both the hills and plains are concerned. If you have no token grant then it will mean that it will be taken up during the Third Plan. Here is a living instance which I hold out to the House that it is unlikely that the work of the Cherra-Pandu ropeway cannot be left over to the next Five-Year Plan. Another hon. Member also said categorically that so much money has been allotted to the Public Works Department and out of the allocation so much has been surrendered with the result that other Departments are starved. I beg to submit that this argument is a fallacy which betrays the lack of careful study of the whole subject. Now, what is the Public Works Department? It is not a Department for doing works with tools and plants through some officers with some divisions and subdivisions or with a few gangs. The Public Works Department is an agency for doing work for every other Department. So, if the Public Works Department surrenders any money then no other Department suffers, because when a particular Department, say Land Revenue or Home Department wants a building for suitable barracks or for some other purposes or the Medical Department wants certain buildings to be built for medical units then some amounts of money are to

be spent for the benefit of that particular Department. If a certain Department wants that certain houses are to be built or certain roads are to built or certain bridges are to be built in certain places then it is the parent Department which wants the works and so it sponsors a scheme. When they sponsor a scheme then the Public Works Department make a rough idea of the scheme and then it is sent to the budget for making provision. After examination of the scheme it goes to another Department for administrative sanction. Then comes the question where that work is to be done or what land is required for the purpose. The other day one hon. Member said that the land for the Nowgong technical school was there and the Minister for Public Works and Education Department issued certain orders in that connection, but the orders were not carried out. I submit, Sir, that is double wrong inflicted on both the Ministers and the Departments. The Minister is a representative of the public. He has a thick skin. But what about the Department? The Department is blamed for nothing. We approached the local Deputy Commissioner times without number for giving possession of the land and in the meanwhile information came that though that land was available for possession there was another plot of land which was more suitable for the purpose. After all this suggestion was made for the benefit of the public and at the instance of the public also. Now it is said that the land is there, the Minister gave orders in this connection, but the Department does not carry it out. I do not know what I should say in this regard. I would only request the hon. Members to think all the points twice before they are raised and throw the blame on the officers. Blame should be placed where they are due so that officers concerned can be dealt with accordingly. But it is too much to lay blame on officers for nothing for which they become callous. Now I will deal with another point alongside, namely, whether there is work allotted for the officers or they are allowed to sit idle. Have we not made any progress in our work? One hon. Member, if I remember alright, Shri Prabhat Narayan Choudhury, was pleased to say that if there was no money available then what for this Department was. The Assam Road Communication Board had discussions and decisions were circulated amongst the Members. It made clear money was lacking for new schemes, etc. Let us now recollect what were the decisions. It was decided that those roads which were left half done should receive prior consideration and besides them other roads which connect important places like markets, railway stations, steamergahats, and other important junctions should also get priority. Similarly other important decisions were also taken. Now it may be mentioned that there was an allotment of 7 crores of rupees during this Second Five Year Plan period but after the 5 per cent cut the amount came to 6 crores 65 lakhs. In the present year of 1958-59 we had a programme of (1) State Roads of Economic importance for which we made provision of 44 lakhs 83 thousands and of this we have to surrender 35 lakhs 56 thousands. Now if the work under the programme is left over to the next year it does not cost at all. The schemes which are included under the programme are: (1) Bhoroli Bridge, (2) improving North Trunk Road from Beki to Sonkosh, (3) improving and black-topping Karimganj-Patharkandi-Churaibari, (4) State Transport road, and (5) Garobhasi-Hotisar road. For items 1, 3 and 4 State Government is to bear 10 per cent and Government of India 90 per cent. For other items Government of India will bear full cost.

For delay in finalisation of the question of financing the Bhoroli bridge project and also on account of non-receipt of India's approval to the estimate for the bridge project, there is a saving of Rs 23.00 lakhs. The estimated

cost is Rs.734.70 lakhs. The programme was originally drawn up for Rs.700.00 lakhs but subsequently recast and again expanded to Rs.734.80 lakhs in order to provide for additional funds for Major bridges and State's share of Bhoroli bridge.

Let us examine item by item and I am prepared to face facts and prepared to take the blame if I deserve it. In such a huge department, of course, there may be short comings here and there, I do not hesitate to accept them. If there are major latches of a Minister, the Minister in a socialistic democracy must give full explanation, I am not lacking in this.

1. For the State Roads of Economic Importance, the provision for 1958-59 was Rs.44.83 lakhs out of which Rs.9.18 lakhs was spent. The amount proposed to be surrendered is Rs. 35.65 lakhs.

2. In the Second Five Year Plan Road Programme provision for 1958-59 is Rs 116.31 lakhs but we spent Rs.120.31 lakhs. The amount exceeded the estimate is Rs.4.00 lakhs.

3. For Rs.70 lakhs Petrol Tax Programme provision for 1958-59 is Rs.20.81 lakhs and we spent the whole amount of Rs.20.81 lakhs.

4. For 40 lakhs Petrol Tax Programme, the provision for 1958-59 is Rs.4.50 lakhs and we spent the whole amount.

5. For Article 275 Road Programme in Hills, the amount provided for the current year was Rs.7.75 lakhs out of which we could spend Rs 35.30 lakhs in the surrender and have to surrender Rs.37.45. The works on the spill over are only in progress, but progress has been hampered due to want of bridge materials, labour and transport difficulties. No works on the new projects could be taken up due to delay in finalisation of the programme and receipt of sanction from Government of India.

For Article 275 Road Programme in Plains out of Rs.20.00 lakhs we spent the whole amount of Rs 20.00.

Now, I beg to submit that in the case of surrenders also, there are two kinds of the same, one is material surrender and the other is paper surrender. I can explain this by giving an instance. Say the State Government estimates for a road making scheme Rs.5.50 lakhs, when we approach the Government of India for sanction they reply that they are very tight and we should do with Rs.4.75 lakhs. Now, in the budget we have made a provision for Rs.5.50 but we have got sanction for 4.75, naturally what happens with the Rs.75 thousand, we have to show it as surrender, although actually there is no monetary surrender but it is a paper surrender. Then there may be money in the Public Works Department budget which we have not spent for the year it was provided, either from the Consolidated Fund or from the fund provided by the Government of India but in this case we estimated for Rs.5.50 lakhs but Government of India provided for Rs.4.75 lakhs naturally 75,000 is to be surrendered. This is book surrender. Surrenders always does not mean loss. In 1946 to 1950 when money was provided for Post-War Development Schemes if the money could not be spent for the year it was allotted, it had to be surrendered which meant no re-allotment of the same amount. Now-a-days,

surrenders do not mean lose. In the Second Five Year Plan if we cannot spent certain money in one year for which it is earmarked, we can take over this to the next year. Moreover, in the Plan so far as the Central Government funds are concerned we do not lose if we surrender.

Then regarding surrender of the State Funds, suppose this year we could not spend some money in certain department the same money can be had in the next year by the same department for the same purpose, or this money can be spent by the department for some other project if the money cannot be expected to be spent on the original project. That way also money surrendered is not lost.

I have already stated what is the amount that we have spent this year. Now, some of my friends said, I do not think they have said seriously or I have taken it seriously, that Executive Engineers and Subdivisional Officers have got no work and they idle their time for want of sufficient work, but whereas the Minister complained that for shortage of personnel schemes could not be executed. Let me quote figures to show whether these people actually work and whether we are short of engineering personnel or not.

For the Second Plan Road Programme we have spent Rs.120.31 lakhs instead of Rs.116.31 estimated expenditure for 1958-59, for Rs.70 lakhs Petrol Tax Programme for the same year we spent 20.81 lakhs for Rs.40 lakhs Petrol Tax Programme we spent Rs.4.50 lakhs for Article 275 Road Programme in Hills, we spent Rs.35.30 lakhs and for Article 275 Road Programme in the Plains we spent Rs.20 lakhs. If our officers did not work how could we spend these huge sums. With all humility I submit that I do not want to take credit for myself but the department deserves the credit because with all these handicaps they have been spending all these amount during this one year. We have also other works which I have not accounted till now. Some border roads have been constructed at great speed. Now let us see what are our handicaps. They are briefly as follows. Our requirement of Engineers is 198 but we have only 82 Engineers now and there is a shortage of 116 Engineers. Our requirement of Overseers Grade I is 845 but we have only 439 just about 50 per cent of the requirement. Our requirement of Grade II Overseers is 60 and we have got all this 60. For Grade III Overseers, we require 150 and we have got only 146; Sir, may I invite your attention to the statement made that there is no work in the Department and in the other breath it is said that the work is deteriorating? Sir, have I no right to expect from them to consider why the work is deteriorating?

Mr. SPEAKER : You have every right untill the clock beats.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH [Minister, Public Works Department (Roads and Buildings)] :** Yes I know, Sir, till the clock beats but I will also say that we are called the children of Amrita. I myself may vanish but other will plead my case.

Sir, I was pointing out our difficulties and let me read briefly what are our difficulties. During the British days, nobody can become an engineer...

Mr. SPEAKER : Mr. Goswami raised a point about misconduct on the part of officers. I think that has to be replied before first because your time is going to be over.

*Speech not corrected.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH :** Could not we by any chance extend the time upto 4-30 ?

Mr. SPEAKER : I am sorry I have no such right, the rule is there.

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH :** Alright, Sir, I will finish in one moment. Sir, our Engineers are without any apprenticeship. Our Grade III Overseers are just a pick-up people from villages and roads. We are just giving them a 3 months or 6 months training and there is hardly any supervision. At the same time, the specifications of our Trunk Roads were of the bullock-cart days. The specifications were not for our diesel trucks. carrying a weight of 5 to 6 tons. That is why all these roads are deteriorating.

Mr. Goswami raised a point about the share-holders of the Bridge and Building Corporation. I will enquire about the certain officer who is a share-holder in it. Normally, this should not happen. An officer's wife is also, if not better, an equal half of the officer. Therefore, we do not want the officer's wife to be the contractor. But if there is a distant relation, is it a sin or a disqualification for the relation of an officer to do the contract work ?

***Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) :** Wife independent
नहय जादना ?

***Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH :** Yes, Mr. Patwary has raised a pertinent point though not being a lawyer himself. After a divorce, a wife can say 'I stand on my right'. Anyway, that matter can be enquired into because I cannot give a reply off hand. I thank the Opposition Leader for having given this fact and I will look into it.

Regarding the Shramik Bahini, this has been formed with the best intention and like all governmental works this is also proceeding very slow. My Friend, Shri Mahananda Bora has rightly said that in North Lakhimpur, the voluntary organisation works very well and earns well. I agree with the hon. Members who spoke very kindly about the Shramik Bahini and it is my earnest desire to push it up but Government matters move very slowly and I expect to see a good public co-operation in this work. Its organisation does not fall in the sphere of Government but it is the people who is to organise it and if the people organise it, we will give them the necessary help. But in this case also we have got great hardles. The long years of Independence have made us to lose our own character. Unless and until there is a national character things will not proceed to the extent we desire. That is a very important point. Regarding the alleged misuse of stone, we have already attended to this matter. The Executive Engineer has checked the stone as well as the measurement book. By the time we received the information from the hon. Member some of the stone and metals were already spread out in the road. But taking all the stone which have not been spread out on the road and the measurement book of the stone spread out, we got the correct total and we could not find any flaw. The hon. Member may please concede that this Department is trying to make a check as best as it could and see in the measurement book whether the stone is there as it should have been. The hon. Member may please note that as soon as we received the wire from Tezpur, we informed the police accordingly. It may

also be noted that whenever we got such information from the members we are also trying to take drastic action. We welcome all information from the hon. Members and timely information will be helpful to us before the mischief is committed. My Friend said that nobody go to the Kokrajhar Subdivision. I want to tell him that I have been to Sorbhog, Dulani and even to Jomduar. We have also been to the Bhutan border in many places. As regards the North Trunk Road, I think we will complete the servicing within the Second Plan and this year servicing will be done from Jhiaboroli to North Lakhimpur with the exception of a few miles and therefore I do not think that there should be any feeling of frustration about this North Trunk Road. We are also surveying the later portion of the road, and would see what can be done. The Aie and the Manas rivers standing on the way but even then we should not rest our oar but try our best. We are now waiting for the Brahmaputra bridge to be constructed and see which way the line goes. Though my time has come to an end, I have not been able to reply to all the points raised by my friends. But even then I assure my friends that we will take into consideration all these points raised and after a proper scrutiny of all the points, we will try to do what we can. I shall also inform the hon. Members individually about all the points that they have raised. Thank you, Sir, and with these words I request my hon. Friends to withdraw their Cut Motions.

Mr. SPEAKER : Under rule 144(3), I have the unpleasant duty of guillotining all the Cut Motions of the Grants. I will put all the questions one by one and take the decision of the House.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs.646,23,500 (Rupees six crores forty-six Lakhs, twenty three thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "50—Civil Works".

(The question was adopted)

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs. 92,12,000 (Rupees ninety two Lakhs and twelve thousand) be granted to Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head Tools and plant and Establishment.

(The question was adopted)

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that a sum of Rs. 3,79,13,300 (Rupees three crores, seventy nine Lakhs, thirteen thousand and three hundred) be granted to Minister-in-charge to defray the charges, which will come in Course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960, for the administration of the head a "81-Capital—Account of Civil Works outside the Revenue Account"

(The question was adopted)

Grant No. 9

“18-B.—AND 68 —A.—NAVIGATION EMBANKMENT AND DRAINAGE WORK”

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY [(Minister-in-charge of Public Works department (Embankment and Drainage)]. On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of 2,61,62,500 (Rupees two crores, Sixty-one lakhs, sixty-two thousand and five hundred) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head “18—B. and 68—A —Navigation, Embankments and Drainage Works”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 2,61,62,500 (Rupees two crores, sixty-one lakhs, sixty-two thousand and five hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head “18—B. and 68—A —Navigation, Embankment and Drainage works”.

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted)

Grant No. 44

“XLVI—A.—ROAD TRANSPORT SCHEMES WORKING EXPANSES

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge of Transport): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,02,69,900 (Rupees one crore, two lakhs, sixty-nine thousand and nine hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “XLVI—A.—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 1,02,69,900 (Rupees one crore, two lakhs, sixty-nine thousand and nine hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “XLVI—A.—Road Transport Schemes—Working Expenses”.

(The Motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted)

Grant No. 7

“12—TAXES ON VEHICLES

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge of Transport): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 7,30,000 (Rupees seven lakhs and thirty thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “12—Taxes on Vehicles”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 7,30,000 (Rupees seven lakhs and thirty thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "12—Taxes on Vehicles."

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 15

"30.—PORTS AND PILOTAGE"

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge of Transport): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 2,64,000 (Rupees two lakhs sixty-four thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "30.—Ports and Pilotage".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 2,64,000 (Rupees two lakhs and sixty-four thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March 1960 for the administration of the head "30.—Ports and Pilotage".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No 40

"57.—MISCELLANEOUS-V-POOLED TRANSPORT AND CONTRIBUTION, ETC.

Capt. WILLIAM SON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge Transport): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,45,000 (Rupees one lakhs and forty-five thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous-V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc.".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 1,45,000 (Rupees one lakh and forty-five thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—V.—Pooled Transport and Contribution, etc.".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 58

**“82—B.—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON ROAD AND WATER SCHEMES
OUTSIDE THE REVENUE—ACCOUNT—ROAD
TRANSPORT”.**

Capt. WILLIAMSON A. SANGMA (Minister-in-charge of Transport) On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 38,46,200 (Rupees thirty-eight lakhs, forty-six thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head—“82—B.—Capital Outlay on Road and Water Schemes outside the Revenue Account—Road Transport.”

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 38,46,200 (Rupees thirty-eight lakhs, forty-six thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head—“82—B.—Capital Outlay on Road and Water Schemes outside the Revenue Account—Road Transport.”

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 4

“9—STAMPS”

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Registration and Stamps) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,05,200 (Rupees one lakh, five thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “9.—Stamps”.

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 1,05,200 (Rupees one lakh, five thousand and two hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “9.—Stamps”.

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted)

Grant No. 6

“11.—REGISTRATION”.

Shri RUPNATH BRAHMA (Minister-in-charge of Registration and Stamps) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 3,47,600 (Rupees three lakhs, forty-seven thousand and six hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head “11.—Registration”.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 3,47,600 (Rupees three lakhs, forty-seven thousand and six hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the Head "11.—Registration".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 13

"28.—JAILS"

Shri DEBESWAR SARMAH (Minister-in-charge of Jails): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 26,10,400 (Rupees twenty-six lakhs, ten thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "28.—Jails".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 26,10,400 (Rupees twenty-six lakhs, ten thousand and four hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "28.—Jails".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 35

"56.—STATIONERY AND PRINTING"

Shri RUPNATH BRAMAH (Minister in-charge of Printing and Stationery): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 23,17,000 (Rupees twenty-three lakhs, and seventeen thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 23,17,000 (Rupees twenty-three lakhs, and seventeen thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "56.—Stationery and Printing".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 39

"57.—MISCELLANEOUS (IV EXPENDITURE ON ISSUE OF FREE RATION AND RICE CONCESSION, ETC.)"

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Supply): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 41,83,000 (Rupees forty-one lakhs and eighty three thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(IV—Expenditure on issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)"

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 41,83,000 (Rupees forty-one lakhs and eighty-three thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "57.—Miscellaneous—(IV—Expenditure on Issue of Free Ration and Rice Concession, etc.)".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 43

"57.—MISCELLANEOUS (VIII—SCHEMES OF CONTROL CLOTH AND YARN)"

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge of Textile): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 1,07,900 (Rupees one lakhs, seven thousand and nine hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head—"57.—Miscellaneous (VIII.—Schemes of Control of Cloth and Yarn.)"

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that a sum of Rs. 1,07,900 (Rupees one lakhs, seven thousand and nine hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head—"57.—Miscellaneous (VIII.—Schemes of Control of Cloth and Yarn.)"

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 33

"54.—FAMINE RELIEF"

Shri HARESWAR DAS (Minister-in-charge of Revenue): On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 46,92,000 (Rupees forty-six lakhs and ninety-two thousand), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief".

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs.46,92,000 (Rupees forty-six lakhs and ninety-two thousand) be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "54.—Famine Relief".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted).

Grant No. 59

"85.—A.—CAPITAL OUTLAY ON SCHEMES OF GOVERNMENT TRADING".

M. MOINUL HAQUE CHOUDHURY (Minister-in-charge Supply) : On the recommendation of the Governor of Assam, I beg, Sir, to move that a sum of Rs. 4,91,14,100 (Rupees four crores, ninety-one lakhs, fourteen thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960 for the administration of the head "85.—A.—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading".

Mr. SPEAKER : The motion moved is that a sum of Rs 4,91,14,100 (Rupees four crores, ninety-one lakhs, fourteen thousand and one hundred), be granted to the Minister-in-charge to defray the charges which will come in course of payment during the year ending 31st March, 1960, for the administration of the head "85.—A.—Capital Outlay on Schemes of Government Trading".

(The motion was put as a question before the House and was adopted),

Laying out copies of the Report of the working of the Assam Financial Corporation

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to lay out copies of the Report of the working of the Assam Financial Corporation under Section 38(3) of the State Financial Corporation Act, 1951.

Government Resolution

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that whereas by a resolution passed by this Assembly on the 18th day of March, 1954 in pursuance of Article 252 of the Constitution, the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) passed by Parliament was adopted in the State of Assam in so far as it relates to estate duty in respect of agricultural land ;

And whereas the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) has been amended by Act 17 of 1954, Act 41 of 1954, Act 36 of 1957 and Act 33 of 1958 passed by Parliament ;

And whereas it appears to this Assembly to be desirable that the matters specified in the amending Acts aforesaid in so far as they relate to estate duty in respect of agricultural land should also be regulated in the State by Parliament by law ;

Now, therefore, this Assembly hereby resolves in pursuance of Article 252 of the Constitution that the matters aforesaid in so far as they are matters with respect to which Parliament has no power to make laws for the State may be regulated in the State by Parliament by law and for this purpose the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) may be amended accordingly.

Sir, in placing this resolution before the House, I feel it my duty to give certain facts which may be helpful to the hon. Members. Under the Estate Duty Act our agricultural land is also subjected to duty because we had previously adopted a resolution like other States and the Estate Duty is realised. Now I should like to give the hon. Members the information with regard to the duty which has been collected from this State since 18th March, 1954. We have got the following amount as Estate Duty on agricultural land from the Centre:

Rs.

1955-56	..	..	...	...	..	...	4,000
1956-57	..	...	...	...	...	...	77,000
1957-58	..	...	...	...	...	...	2,000
1958-59	...	...	...	...	...	...	14,000

and in 1959-60, we have provided for 19,000 rupees. This is in addition to the share of the Central Estate Duty which is as follows:

Rs-

1954-55	..	...	...	...	...	...	1,26,000
1955-56	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,13,000
1956-57	...	...	...	...	...	...	5,18,000
1957-58	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,13,000
1958-59	...	...	...	...	...	...	4,51,000

and during 1959-60, we expect to get 5,01,000 rupees. So I hope the hon. Members will realise that this Act by the Parliament has helped us to get some money and the purpose for which this has been placed will be accepted, so that we may continue to get the Estate Duty from the agricultural land.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that "whereas by a resolution passed by this Assembly on the 18th day of March, 1954 in pursuance of Article 252 of the Constitution, the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) passed by Parliament was adopted in the State of Assam in so far as it relates to estate duty in respect of agricultural land ;

And whereas the Estate Duty Act, 1953, (34 of 1953) has been amended by Act 17 of 1954, Act 41 of 1954, Act 36 of 1957 and Act 33 of 1958 passed by Parliament ;

And whereas it appears to this Assembly to be desirable that the matters specified in the amending Acts aforesaid in so far as they relate to estate duty in respect of Agricultural land should also be regulated in the State by Parliament by law ;

Now, therefore, this Assembly hereby resolves in pursuance of Article 252 of the Constitution that the matter aforesaid in so far as they are matters with respect to which Parliament has no power to make laws for the State may be requested in the State by Parliament by law and for this purpose the Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) may be amended accordingly.

(The resolution was adopted)

The Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959

Mr. SPEAKER: Here is a message from the Governor of Assam : "Under provision 207 (1) of the Constitution of India I, Shri Saiyid Fazl Ali, Governor of Assam recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be introduced in the Assam Legislative Assembly."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Mr. Speaker Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that leave be granted to introduce the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959.

(After a pause)

(The leave was granted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I introduce the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER: Here is another message from the Governor of Assam : "Under provision of Article 207 of the Constitution of India, I, Shri Saiyid Fazl Ali, recommend that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be introduced and passed in the Assam Legislative Assembly."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Here I would like to submit that the hon. Members before they participate in the Proceedings in the House, they should acquaint themselves with the rules and Procedures of this House. So far as this Appropriation Bill is concerned, this is a formal matter. If any hon. Member wants to speak, he should not only indicate his desire to do so, but also let me have the Points on which he wants to speak. This matter was brought before the Speakers' Conference and they said that it was only a formal matter.

I, myself have no command over it. Therefore the hon. Member may be permitted to speak as a special case, but I would like to make it quite clear that it should not be treated as a precedent.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister): I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959, be taken into consideration clause by clause.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration clause by clause.

(After a pause)

(The question was adopted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister): I beg to move that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Appropriation (No. II) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(After a pause)

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Finance Bill, 1959

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister): Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Finance Bill 1959 be taken into consideration.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Finance Bill, 1959 be passed.

The question is that the Assam Finance Bill, 1959 be passed.

(after a pause)

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Agricultural Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 1959

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister): I beg to move that the Assam Agricultural Income-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Agricultural Income-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

The Assam Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I beg to move that the Assam Agricultural Income-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion is moved.

The question is that the Assam Agricultural Income-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(after a pause)

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1959

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister): Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Profession, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I beg to move that the Assam Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion is moved.

The question is that the Assam Professions, Trades, Callings and Employment Taxation (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister): Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER: The motion moved is that the Assam Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I beg to move that the Assam Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be passed.

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Finance Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that the Assam Finance Sales Tax (Amendment) Bill 1959 be taken into consideration.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Finance Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion is moved.

The question is that the Assam Finance Sales-Tax (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

(After a pause)

(The question was adopted)

The Assam Taxation (on goods carried by Roads or Inland Water ways (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) : Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Taxation (on goods carried by Roads or Inland Water ways) (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be taken into consideration.

Mr. SPEAKER : The Motion moved is that the Assam Taxation (on goods carried by Roads or Inland Water ways (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be taken into consideration.

Shri HIRALAL PATWARY (Panery) : সাধাৰণতে এই বিলৰ জৰিয়তে যি টকা আদায় কৰা হয় সেই টকা চাহ বাগিচা বিলাকৰ পৰা আদায় কৰা হয়। কিন্তু দেখা যায় যে টকা আদায় কৰা স্বত্বেও তেওঁলোকক বাস্তৱ সুবিধা দিয়া হোৱা নাই, আশা কৰো এই টকাৰ যেন সদব্যৱহাৰ কৰা হয়।

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) : Mr. Speaker, Sir, it is wrong for the hon. Member to think that this money is realised from the proceeds on tea alone ; it is also realised on tax on jute. And all this money which is realised goes into the exchequer of the State, and out of that all activities are under taken including construction of roads and providing of facilities for improvement of tea gardens.

Now Sir, as there is no amendment I beg to move that the Assam Taxation (on goods carried by Roads or Inland water ways) (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Taxation (on goods carried by Roads or Inland water ways) (Amendment) Bill, 1959, be passed.

(After a pause)

(The question was adopted.)

The Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : I now read out a message from the Governor.

"I recommend under Art. 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Local Authorities grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 be introduced in the Assam Legislative Assembly."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) : Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Has the hon. Minister leave of the House to introduce the Bill ?

(After a pause)

(The leave was granted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED : Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Local Authorities Grants (Charged) Bill, 1959 be introduced.

(After a pause)

(The question was adopted)

(The Secretary, Legislative Assembly then read out the title of the Bill.)

The Assam Ministers' and Deputy Minister' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Here is another Message from the Governor ;

"I recommend under Art. 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be introduced and moved in Assam Legislative Assembly."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Finance Minister) : Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Has the hon. Minister leave of the House to introduce the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 ?

(After a pause)

(The leave was granted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER; The question is that the Assam Ministers' and Deputy Ministers' Salaries and Allowances Bill, 1959 be introduced.
(The question was adopted)

The Secretary, Legislative Assembly then read out the title of the Bill).

The Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowance (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER: Here is another Message from the Governor. I recommend under Art. 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be introduced in the Assam Legislative Assembly.

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Speakers' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER: Is it the pleasure of the House that leave be granted to introduce the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 ?

(After a pause)

(The leave was granted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : The question is that the Assam Speaker's Salaries and Allowances Bill, 1959 be introduced.

(The question was adopted)

(The Secretary, Legislative Assembly then read out the title of the Bill).

The Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowance (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER: Here is another message from the Governor.

"I recommend under Art. 207 (1) of the Constitution of India that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances Bill, 1959 be introduced and moved in the Assam Legislative Assembly."

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: I beg leave of the House to introduce the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER : Is it the pleasure of the House that leave be granted to introduce the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

(After a pause)

(The leave was granted)

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED: Sir, I beg to introduce the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959.

Mr. SPEAKER: The question is that the Assam Deputy Speaker's Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1959 be introduced.

(The question was adopted)

(The Secretary, Assam Legislative Assembly then read out the title of the Bill.)

***Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Local-Self Government):** Mr. Speaker, Sir, I beg to move that the Assam Panchayat Bill, 1958, as reported by the Select Committee, be taken into consideration.

In placing this Motion before the House, I should like to make a few observations. The Assam Panchayat Bill which after being initially introduced in the Assembly last year was referred to a Select Committee for more detailed and thorough examination has now been again sent back to the Assembly by the Select Committee with its report. The Select Committee has very thoroughly gone into the matter as may be seen from the fact that it received 20 memoranda and examined 16 witnesses. While some of the persons who submitted memoranda or gave evidence did so in their individual capacity the vast majority of them did so on behalf of various institutions and hence it will be apparent that the views of a large body of persons were taken into account by the Select Committee before it submitted its report and the members of the Select Committee are to be congratulated on the very exhaustive and thorough way in which they tackled the task set for them and for which purpose they had no less than 16 sittings and got through nearly 55 hours of work. The Select Committee, on my initiative, had the very great benefit of also hearing the views of Shri Balwantray Metha, M. P., As you all know, Shri Mehta headed a team to go into the question of Democratic decentralisation and the report of this Committee has been of the greatest help to us while framing our Bill.

The Bill as returned to the Assembly embodies some significant changes from the original draft and some of which I will mention briefly. In the very early stages the members of the Select Committee agreed to follow the directive principles of the Constitution in framing the Assam Panchayat Bill and with this and in view the powers and functions of the goan Panchayat have been considerably augmented, as will be seen by comparing Clause 36 of the revised Bill with Schedule A of the original Bill. A greater share of the land revenue as well as the total local rate have also been allotted to them so as to enable them to function as effective units of Self-Government. Consistently with this principle it was felt that if there was more than one tiers over the Goan Panchayats in the district or subdivi-

sion, then the growth of the letter would be hampered and, therefore, not more than two tiers of Panchayats should be set up in the district. As regards the location of the second tiers, unfortunately, there was some difference of opinion amongst the members and my Communist friends being unable to agree with the majority decision, appended notes of dissent. Their view is that the second tiers should be established at the subdivisional level because the subdivision has a real entity and meaning in the minds of the people, while the Block is an artificial and newly-created unit which has not as yet captured the imagination of the people. Also they felt that a better class of leadership would be available at the district level rather than at the Block level. The majority view in the Select Committee was that, firstly, the purpose of democratic decentralisation would be better served by going down below the district level and that, secondly, the Blocks, which had come to stay permanently and would be the normal pattern of administration in the future, would provide not only a convenient administrative area but would also place at the disposal of the proposed Panchayats a full complement of trained and experienced technical staff. Another change has been dictated by the fact that since it had already been decided to have only two tiers of Panchayats in the district, it was decided to change the name of the former Union Panchayats to the Mahkuma Parisad and give to the latter body only supervisory and co-ordinating function. With this object in view all executive powers have been taken away from this body and only advisory and supervisory functions have been retained as may be seen from a glance at Clause 38. The powers of taxation which had previously been given to the Union Panchayat, control over local board ferries, etc., has also been withdrawn from the Mahkuma Parisad. Another noteworthy change in the letter body has been the replacing of the Deputy Commissioner/Subdivisional Officer by an elected President.

Regarding the Constitution of the different Panchayats also, there have been some significant changes. Initially it was proposed to make the President of the Goan Panchayats *ex-officio* members of the Anchalik Panchayats. However, the Select Committee felt that there should be no *ex-officio* representation on the Anchalik Panchayat and that direct elections should be held to that body. Regarding the constitution of the Mahkuma Parisad also, it was felt that since the body is supposed to be only a supervisory and co-ordinating one, no direct elections were necessary, but that the purpose would be served if persons in their representative capacity, *i. g.*, Presidents of Anchalik Panchayats, Members of Parliament, Members of Assembly, etc. were included in the body and for this reason the original proposal to have one representative elected by each Anchalik Panchayat to that body was deleted. Another noteworthy change has been provision for the co-option of women, scheduled castes and scheduled tribes provided that representatives of these bodies were not elected to the Goan Panchayats. The co-option of scheduled castes and scheduled tribes, in case no member is elected to them has been provided for in the case of Anchalik Panchayats and the Mahkuma Parisads. It has also been decided that *ex-officio* members of the Anchalik and Goan Panchayats, *i. g.*, Members of Parliament, Member of Assembly, Chairman of Local Boards, etc., should not have the right of vote.

On receipt of representations from the employees of the Local Boards and the Rural Panchayat Secretaries, the Select Committee decided to make suitable provisions regarding the absorption of these persons. The idea is to absorb as many as are considered suitable into the cadres of

various Government Department and offer the others for employment to the Anchalik Panchayats. In case of employment, the salaries, allowances and the condition of service of these persons would be protected.

As regards the Panchayat Adalats, the provisions have been left more or less unchanged except for the fact that the District Judge has been the power of selecting the members of Adalat instead of the Deputy Commissioner or the Subdivisional Officer.

There are also some other minor changes made here and there but I will not unnecessarily take the time of the hon. Members by detailing these and I would move that the Bill which has been very thoroughly gone into by the Select Committee may be passed by the House.

I would also submit, Sir, that the Bill as it has now emerged from the Select Committee is one of the best piece of legislation that can be conceived of under the circumstances and if it is passed by the House we shall have gone a great distance towards decentralisation of authority from Shillong to the actual people in the villages. I hope the spirit with which these powers are going to be transferred will be utilised by the people in the rural areas for their development and benefit. With these few words, I commend the report of the Select Committee for consideration of this House.

Mr. SPEAKER : We decided to sit till 4.30, that was in respect of demands for grants. Is it the pleasure of the House to sit beyond 4.30 ?

(Voices:—No. Sir).

Mr. SPEAKER : Then is it the pleasure of the House that we adjourn now ?

(Voices:—Yes, Sir).

Mr. SPEAKER : The House will meet on Thursday. But may I suggest that we continue to sit from 9.30 ?

Shri FAKHRUDDIN ALI AHMED (Minister, Finance) : On Thursday we may sit at 9.30 if it is not inconvenient, because I would like to be present in the House for some time.

Shri HARESWAR GOSWAMI (Rampur) : Only on Thursday we sit at 9.30 and after that from 10 A. M. as provided in the rules.

Mr. SPEAKER : I thought the members would like to continue their hard work. Any way, the House stands adjourned till 9.30 A. M. on Thursday, the 2nd April.

Ajournment

The Assembly was then adjourned till 9.30 A. M. on Thursday, the 2nd April, 1959,

Shillong :

The 17th December, 1960.

R. N. BARUA,
Secretary, Legislative Assembly,
Assam.